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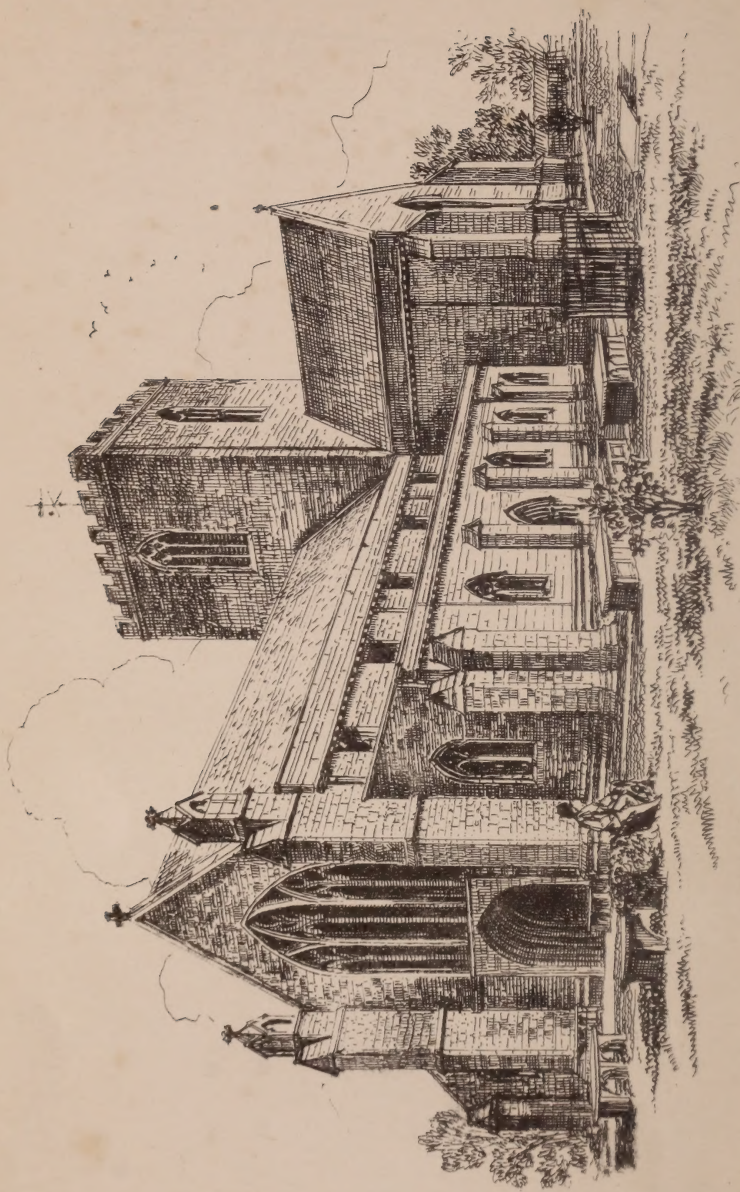






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ST. ASAPH CATHEDRAL FROM THE SOUTH WEST,

FROM A PHOTO. BY F. BEDFORD, BY PERMISSION OF THE PUBLISHERS, CATHERALL AND PRICHARD, CHESTER.



Esgobaeth Llanelwy.

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A HISTORY

OF THE

DIOCESE OF ST. ASAPH,

GENERAL, CATHEDRAL, AND PAROCHIAL.

With Illustrations.

BY THE

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"CONFIRMASIWN"; ETC.

LONDON:

JAMES PARKER & Co., 377, STRAND.

ST. ASAPH: CHARLES HUGHES.

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MDCCCLXXIV.

LONDON:  
T. RICHARDS, 37, GREAT QUEEN STREET, W.C.



## PREFACE.

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IN bringing this work to a close, a few words may not be inappropriate as to its sources, purpose, and arrangement. The first intention was to produce a new edition of Browne Willis's *Survey of St. Asaph*, bringing Edwards's work down to the present day; but for various reasons this idea was soon laid aside for the more complete, and I would hope more interesting and useful plan now adopted. It seemed to me desirable to exhibit, more fully than had yet been done, the connection of the leading characters with the times and places with which they were more directly concerned; more especially their relative influence upon each other within the narrow limits of this diocese, and their relation to the wider field of the history of their times. Hence the first portion of the work takes the form of a general history of the diocese from the earliest period to the present time, constructed, I trust, in a fair and impartial spirit, in accordance with the evidence of local facts and records, and supplying at the same time a reliable index to the history of the Church in the Principality. To this succeeds a history of the Cathedral from its first foundation down to the restoration now in progress, embracing an account of its fabric, endowments, and constitution. And this is followed by a condensed summary of the memoirs, so laboriously and carefully compiled by Browne Willis in 1719, and amplified by Mr. Edwards in the edition of

1801; and to their work, without which this one would probably never have been undertaken, I desire to express the deepest obligations. The last, and by far the largest, if not the most important, portion is new, not only to their plan, but, as far as I am aware, to the diocesan histories of the kingdom, as it comprises an ecclesiastical account of every parish in the diocese in all those details which seem of most permanent value and interest for a work of this kind.

In carrying out this plan I have, in addition to the sources of information generally available, been able to make use of the Transcript of Llyfr Côch Asaph (Liber Ruber Assavensis) and other important Diocesan MSS. in the Bishop's library, a favour which Bishop Short very courteously granted, and his successor Bishop Hughes has with equal kindness continued. To the memory of Bishop Short I would add a further tribute as to one who took much interest in parochial history, and frequently urged his clergy to write out an account of their own parishes. And with him I would join the name of the late Rev. Arthur West Haddan, joint editor of *Councils and Ecclesiastical Documents*, to whom I am indebted for much kindly sympathy and encouragement at the commencement of the work, as well as for the offer, the third of its kind, to undertake the laborious office of correcting the proof for the press, a labour for which, as far as the history of the diocese is concerned, my best thanks are due to the Rev. Canon Williams of Rhydycroesau; the remainder having been of too intricate and tedious a character to admit of so much encroachment on another's time.

The history of the Cathedral I should have been glad to have rendered more complete; but under the circumstances I have endeavoured to make it as full and accurate as the materials within my reach admitted of.

For the purposes of the parochial histories, a personal visit has been made in almost every instance, old registers and parish



books have been examined, and the churches carefully inspected, and such details written down as seemed to be of most permanent interest as a record of the past and a witness of the present. The charities have been summarised for the most part from the Official Report issued in 1837, but corrected and adapted to the present time. The list of incumbents follows that of Edwards, completed to the latest date. In some cases parochial accounts already prepared by the clergy have been placed at my service; in others much information has been derived from various sources; *e. g.*, for some of the Montgomeryshire parishes, from the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, edited by Mr. M. C. Jones, F.S.A.; for those of Merionethshire, from some MS. notes of that eminent antiquary, Edward Lhuyd, now in the Peniarth Library, which Mr. W. W. E. Wynne courteously permitted me to copy; and for antiquarian notes in general to that valuable repertory the pages of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*. For the transferred deaneries of Dyffryn Clwyd and (portion of) Wrexham I have to thank the registrars of Bangor, Chester, and Lichfield for permission to inspect documents; and for information relative to Kerry, the registrar of St. David's; whilst to the registrar of St. Asaph, and especially to Mr. Robert Roberts, the deputy registrar, I beg to offer my acknowledgments for ready assistance at all times. These various materials, "*undique collata membra*," when weeded, condensed and methodised, have been almost always submitted to the clergy; and to their great readiness to look over the same, to correct errors and supply defects, and to the numerous correspondents who have so willingly supplied information, I must attribute the accuracy which will, I trust, be found to characterise this work, notwithstanding its vast amount of minute and varied details.

For the loan of woodblocks I have to thank the respective clergy and the Secretaries of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*; and for drawings for the photolithographs, etc., I am much indebted

to Mr. Ferrey, A.R.I.B.A., Mr. Arthur Baker, Mr. Edward Haycock, and Messrs. Lloyd-Williams and Underwood, to whose illustrations of the *Village Churches of Denbighshire* I have great pleasure in bearing witness as a valuable and interesting accompaniment to this work.

Lastly to the subscribers, by whose assistance I have been able to carry out this design, I have much satisfaction in now offering the completed work ; a work which not only stands unique, I believe, in its completeness as a diocesan book, but one which will, I trust, supply a nucleus for many fuller parochial histories, and be found to merit for itself a standard place in its own special line.

St. Mary's, Cefn, July 28, 1874.



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# THE DIOCESE OF ST. ASAPH.

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## CHAPTER I.

### THE ORIGIN OF THE SEE.

Legendary character of the accounts; substratum of truth.—Kentigern founds a monastery; is succeeded by Asaph.—The diocese formed; its limits; relative antiquity of its different classes of parishes; style of its earliest churches.

THE story of the foundation of this see has been clothed by the biographers of the Saints of the Middle Ages in a motley dress of tradition and legend, of fact and fiction. This arose partly from ignorance, partly from design. When the invocation of saints and a veneration for relics began to be introduced, chiefly through the influence of the foreign religious orders that crept into the country about the end of the eleventh century, it became their common custom to appropriate into their own calendar the founders and saints of the native British Church, and to recast their histories in accordance with their own views. In doing this they sometimes fell into curious mistakes, that alike fed, and fed upon, the credulity of the age. Words which in their original use were simple and appropriate, became, through a misapprehension of their meaning, the groundwork of strange and miraculous legends which betray their Latin origin. Thus “*aper*,” the old form of “*aber*,” which means “the confluence” of two rivers, and describes very suitably the situation of St. Asaph, near the junction of the Clwyd and Elwy, was mistaken for the similar Latin word, and made out to be a “boar” that led Kentigern to choose that site; and so too the “*tanwydd*,” *i.e.* fire-

wood, which Asaph is said to have once borne to his shivering master, by being mistranslated into "vivi" and "ardentes car-bones," was held to establish the saintly character of the disciple, because it left no mark or smell of fire upon his clothes.<sup>1</sup> Mistakes like these, and others where figurative expressions were taken literally, have overlaid the simple facts of the history with much that is fabulous, but a little gentle criticism may help us to pierce through this outer crust to the underlying substratum of truth.<sup>2</sup>

The first founder of a religious establishment at Llanelwy, "the Church on the Elwy," by which name St. Asaph was known until about the beginning of the twelfth century, is universally admitted to have been one Cyndeyrn (Latinised into Kentigernus, whence the English form Kentigern), the exiled bishop of the Northern Britons inhabiting Strath Clyde. Forced by the dissensions of his countrymen to quit his northern see about A.D. 560, he is stated to have bent his steps southwards to Menevia (Mynyw), a place just then become famous as the episcopal seat of St. David (Dewi). Such a visit accords well with the probability of circumstances, and is readily accounted for by the great reputation of St. David, and by the oneness in race and creed of the Britons in the North and West. The next step was to head a mission into Ystrad Clwyd; a name which, from its exact

<sup>1</sup> *Acta Sanctorum*, Maii, tom. i, p. 82; Antverpiæ, 1680. De S. Asapho.

<sup>2</sup> Thus, for instance, in the legendary life of St. Winifred, composed by Robert of Salop about the middle of the twelfth century, when her body was translated from Gwytherin to the Abbey of St. Peter and St. Paul at Shrewsbury, we find two distinct elements combined,—the history of the saint, and the myth of the well. In the one we see *Gwenfrewi* (Guenvrea, Wenefreda, or Winifred) represented as the daughter of Thewith, the lord of those parts, and building a church under the auspices of her uncle Beuno, first at Holywell, and afterwards a similar one at Gwytherin; in which we may recognise the connexion of Holywell with Whitford as a daughter church. ("Ecclesia S. Wenifrede fil. Thewith=Chwith-freti.") In the other, *Gwenfrawd* (the foaming stream) appears as the daughter of *Gwenlo* (wlaw), the pouring rain, and as owing its origin to the pursuit of a son of the neighbouring Alyn; thus crystallising the early belief that it was but the outlet of an underground current from the river Alyn, which partially disappears for a portion of its course at Hesp Alyn, near Mold; and that it reappeared here, converting the dry dingle (*Sychnant*) into a well-watered valley.



correspondence with that of the region whence he had come, would, if of earlier date, supply a special reason for his choice, and which, if subsequently given, may serve in its degree to corroborate that event. It was in the northern end of the vale that Kentigern proceeded to establish his collegium or monastery; and it may be regarded as a mark of the substantial accuracy of the main facts, that he is said to have done this under the protection of a king of Powys; for whilst the rest of the Vale of Clwyd belonged, according to the earliest known divisions of the country, to the province of Gwynedd, this portion formed part of that of Powys, and sharing its subsequent disintegration, was included, in the "Domesday Survey," in the earldom of Chester, and was reckoned in the "Valor Ecclesiasticus" of Henry VIII, as falling within the lordship of Chirk. Maelgwn, king of Gwynedd, whose principal residence was the neighbouring castle of Dyganwy on the eastern bank of the Conway, took great offence at Kentigern, for having given sanctuary to one of his retainers and refusing to deliver him up, and threatened to take vengeance upon him; instead, however, of carrying out his threat, he appears to have been won over to a better mind,<sup>1</sup> and to have confirmed Kentigern in his privileges, and afterwards, when he had become Sovereign of the whole country, to have endowed his institution with a generous hand. The district lying between Dyganwy and Llanelwy has formed, from the earliest historical period, a main source of income to the bishop and chapter, and in an old book, existing in London in 1256, and relating to the privileges of the see and the grants made to Kentigern and his successors, although the names of the places were probably quoted as they were then known, still they very consistently lie within that district, where we should under the circumstances expect them to have been assigned.<sup>2</sup> This Maelgwn was a great warrior, and is described in the Welsh Chronicles as sagacious, bold, and vigorous, and the subduer of many kings; but he appears to have been cruel withal and somewhat superstitious. In his later

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<sup>1</sup> Such is apparently the true meaning of the story of his blindness and miraculous cure. (*Llyfr Cêch*.)

<sup>2</sup> *Llyfr Cêch*, p. 117; Browne Willis, Appendix I.

years, in remorse for the sins of his past life, he is said to have formed a resolution of retiring from the world, and though he did not carry it out, he became a great patron and promoter of Christianity among his subjects, as is testified not only by his conduct towards Kentigern, but also by his founding the sister see of Bangor, and the religious houses of Penmon and Caergybi; besides which, many mother churches in different districts of the country, such as Northop, Hawarden, Llanymawddwy, &c., date back their foundation to this era. We are not, indeed, to impute to this period the introduction of Christianity; the history of the British Church, and especially the story of the Pelagian heresy, the mission of Germanus and Lupus, the grateful remembrance of Cadvan, Mael, and other Armorican missionaries, the dedication of Maelgwn's own church at Llanrhôs in the name of Hilary, and the Legend of St. Winifred, in some of its aspects, all bespeak an earlier evangelization; but a more systematic attempt was now made to revive it, and make it more completely a national faith.

Under its new auspices, the institution founded by Kentigern soon attained a high repute. Partaking of the nature of a missionary colony, something like the Universities' Mission to Central Africa, and combining in its scheme not only the offices of religion, but also the several duties of education, husbandry, and handicraft, it drew together a large number of members. The privilege of sanctuary too, which extended a mile each way in length and breadth, was an additional attraction. To all of which must be added the much dreaded advance of the pagan Anglo-Saxons, bearing, as they did, fire and sword in their train, and ever driving the Britons before them to seek for safety among the mountains of the West. Those of the members who had to conduct Divine Worship are said, as at Bangor-is-coed, to have had the twenty-four hours so allotted among them that some were always engaged in the performance of religious service; after the model of King David's distribution of the priests into four-and-twenty courses for the worship of the Tabernacle. Besides this they would follow the common practice of the Church at the time, and extend their missionary labours over the surrounding district, either setting up a cross to mark their stations, or else taking

advantage of the periodical gatherings of the people at the Wells, which they gradually appropriated to Christian uses; until the liberality of individuals or the increasing wealth of the Church, enabled them to erect capellæ near the spots, the prototypes in character and purpose of the chapels of ease, and of the school and mission churches of our own day.

The ablest and most popular of Kentigern's disciples was one Asaph or Asa, already mentioned, a native of North Wales, and a man of eminent virtue and piety, who, on the recall of his master to resume the charge of his old flock in Strath Clyde, where peace was now restored, was appointed to succeed him. The many places in Tegengl that bear his name, such as Llan-asa (his church), Ffynnon Asa (his well), Onen Asa (his ash), Pantasa (his hollow), all combine to point out that region as his native place; and the old legend that pointed out, until late years, a spot in the High Street at St. Asaph as the impression of the hoof of the saint's horse, when he leapt thither from Onen Asa, seems but another version of the same idea. He was apparently a great benefactor of the see, and judging from the reverence in which his memory came to be held, must be regarded as one of its greatest ornaments, if not its first prelate. Indeed, I am strongly inclined to think that it was in his time that the monastery was elevated into a cathedral foundation; for it could not have been without some strong reason of the kind that *his* name, to the exclusion of that of Kentigern, was afterwards given to the cathedral city; and that the bishops, who for a long period were styled "Elvenses," came subsequently to be entitled "Asaphenses." His being a native, too, would naturally incline Maelgwn Gwynedd to grant this privilege to him rather than to a stranger; whilst the fact of Kentigern being a bishop by virtue of his previous consecration, and therefore a bishop *in* Llan-elwy, would sufficiently account for his being commonly regarded as the first bishop *of* Llan-elwy.

This change, whenever it took place, was a simple and natural one. The abbot of the monastery would become the bishop of the diocese; the other members, or canons, would still perform the same duties, as precentor, treasurer, chancellor, sacristan, etc., respectively; to whom would then be added the archdeacon and



the chancellor of the diocese, as representing the new or diocesan element. The office of dean was added afterwards. The surrounding and dependent *capellæ* would be served as before, only that as converts multiplied, *vicarii* or resident substitutes would be put in charge of them; whilst the original *personæ*, parsons or rectors, would continue in residence in the *collegium*, and be denominated respectively, according to their connexion with the *capellæ* or the cathedral, *capellani* or canons, as living by canon or rule.

The limits of the diocese seem to have been originally commensurate with those of Powys. Maelgwn having, when king of Gwynedd, erected Bangor into an episcopal see, and assigned to its jurisdiction the province then under his sway, appears, after his elevation to the sovereignty of the whole country, to have assigned to the new see of Llanelwy the rest of his dominions in North Wales; that is to say, the province of Powys, the extent of which was at that time much greater than after the incursions of the Lords Marchers. "Reaching as far as Pulford Bridge, near Chester, and then stretching in a straight line from the Broxton Hills southerly to Pengwern Powys or Shrewsbury, Powysland, says Pennant,<sup>1</sup> included a large tract of both these counties (Cheshire and Shropshire); and from thence, again, through the eastern limits of Montgomeryshire, comprehended all that county, a part of Radnorshire and Brecknockshire." This explains many difficulties in the after history of the see, such as Bishop Adam's claim of jurisdiction over Kerry in 1175; Bishop Anian's controversy with the Bishop of Hereford concerning the jurisdiction of Gorddwr, c. 1282; the early dependence of Llanfihangel-yn-Nghentyn (Alberbury) upon Meifod; and the interlacing of this diocese with that of Chester, or, as it was occasionally called, Lichfield or Coventry; of each of which matters we shall have to speak more fully hereafter.

Professor Rees, in his Essay on the Welsh Saints,<sup>2</sup> has well pointed out "that the churches were at first few, and the parishes" (if we may apply the term to the surrounding districts which

<sup>1</sup> Tour in Wales, 1778, p. 206.

<sup>2</sup> Section 1, "On the comparative Antiquity of the Foundation of Churches and Chapels in Wales."

the clergy took under their charge, as we have already observed in the case of Llanelwy) "very extensive"; co-extensive, probably, with the existing civil divisions or lordships; and that the inequalities, which sometimes marked the formation of new parishes out of them, were the results of the feuds that so often arose out of the distribution of the patrimony according to the law of gavelkind;—a law which ordained that the sons should inherit the father's property in equal proportions. By pursuing the subject a little further, we shall find many interesting particulars naturally suggesting themselves, and throwing much light on the Church growth of the period, and the mode and character of its subsequent extension. We will take as specimens a few of the oldest mother churches in the diocese, Meifod, Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, Oswestry, Dinerth (Llandrillo-yn-Rhôs). First we find that very wide districts were originally included under their charge; and that long after *capellæ* had been built in their distant parts, and constituted into distinct cures with parishes of their own, they still acknowledged, by some kind of service or due, their former connexion with the mother church. Thus, in the grant made by Bishop Hugh, in 1239, of tithes in Llanfair Caereinion to the Nuns of Llanllugan, a reservation was made of those which were due to himself as rector of Meifod;<sup>1</sup> and in an agreement, made in 1265, between Adam ap Meuric, rector of Meifod, and the rector of Llanfihangel (Alberbury), a considerable portion at least of the latter parish, as well as of Guilsfield, are shewn to have been subject to the same mother church.<sup>2</sup> Llanrhaiadr embraced a very wide tract of country, and in the Taxatio of 1291 has Llangedwyn, Llanarmon, Bettws (Llanwddyn), and Llangadwaladr, included as chapelries under it. Oswestry, according to Eyton,<sup>3</sup> was the mother church of the whole district extending from the Severn to the Ceiriog. Dinerth long preserved a proof of its early jurisdiction, inasmuch as its rector and vicar received a portion of the tithes of the surrounding parishes of Llanelian, Llansaintffraid, Llanrhos, and Llysfaen; in each of which it was the custom, until about the end of the last century,

<sup>1</sup> *Llyfr Côch*, p. 29; B. Willis, App. iii.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 27.

<sup>3</sup> *Antiquities of Shropshire*, vol. x, Oswestry.

for the vicar to preach two or four sermons annually ; instead of which a money acknowledgment has since been substituted. These churches, consecrated with prayer and fasting, adopted the existing name of the place where they were built,—a name evidently derived from some local circumstance,—either with or without the prefix “Llan,” as Llanrhaiadr, Corwen, Llangwm.<sup>1</sup> The *capellæ*, on the other hand, received the name either of the founder by whose munificence they were erected, or of the missionary by whose influence the district was evangelized ; *e. g.*, Llandrillo, Llangedwyn, Llandrinio, etc. Under this class also, though of later foundation, and bespeaking a period when canonization had become the rule, may be enumerated those which were dedicated in the names of favourite saints historically or locally connected with them, such as Garmon, Hilary, Asaph, Tysilio, Beuno, Winifred, Ffraid or Bridget. Of those dedicated in the name of Scripture saints, some are probably coeval with, or possibly even earlier than, the last series ; but the majority are only re-dedications of earlier foundations, as Llan-Eurgain to St. Peter, Abergele to St. Michael, Meifod, Oswestry, Welshpool, and others, to St. Mary. Churches dedicated in the name of St. Mary are most numerous in those parts which, like Tegengl, fell early under the English sway ; and wherever the Cistercians had influence, it was their common practice to introduce her name. In some instances the earlier names have been handed down side by side with these, in connexion with the “*gwyl mab-sant*” (*vigiliæ*) or wake, and the fair or other gathering that continued to be held upon it. In others they have survived in connexion with the holy well where the first missionary baptised his converts, and whence succeeding ages religiously bore the water for baptism in the church. Occasionally, too, a cell or oratory has kept alive, through many vicissitudes, the remembrance of an early, if not the earliest, evangelist of the place, as those of Gwyddfarch at Meifod, and of Trillo in Rhôs. The latter is specially interesting from being, as far at least as this diocese is concerned, a unique specimen of those primitive oratories which

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<sup>1</sup> This term, which signifies primarily a yard or enclosure, is common as a suffix, *e. g.*, “*corlan*,” “*gwinllan*,” “*perllan*,” “*ydlan*” ; but when applied to a church is always prefixed.



formed the type of the earliest British churches. It is situated on the shore, to the north-east of Llandrillo Church, and is in form a parallelogram, about fifteen feet long by eight wide, the east end and both sides being pierced with small loopholes or lancets. The roof is vaulted, and consists of small stones. Its entrance is at the west end, and at the east there is a perennial spring. The whole has at one time been surrounded with a wall.<sup>1</sup>

The following brief extracts from the Lectures of the most eminent of living architects<sup>2</sup> cannot fail to be interesting in connexion with the present subject, and will serve as an appropriate conclusion to this chapter. In tracing out the early styles of architecture in this country, he "looks mainly to Ireland for relics of the early modes of building among the British races, for there may still be found remains two centuries earlier than any left by the Anglo-Saxons....These remains are mainly of three classes: the cells and other domestic buildings of the monks, the oratories and churches, and the round towers. The former class are of the rudest and most ascetic description, and seem to be founded on the customary dwellings of the pagan inhabitants. The monks evidently eschewed all pretensions to personal comfort, and took up at once with the scale of dwelling common among their flocks. They lived in stone huts built without mortar, and vaulted over; more like ovens than human habitations, and so small as only to be sufficient for one person. The cells of the monks differed but little from this, excepting in being quadrangular within, though round or oval without. The earlier oratories seem frequently to have been a development of the construction of these cells, 'built of uncemented stones admirably fitted to each other, and their lateral walls converging from the base to their apex in curved lines.' The early Irish churches are of two very simple types, being either oblong, with a door at the west, and a window at the east end,—a mere development, with upright walls, of the oratories just described; or a double oblong forming a nave and chancel, and united by a chancel-arch,—the distinct prototypes of the simplest forms of an English church.

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<sup>1</sup> For Cornish oratories, compare Blight on *The Churches of West Cornwall*, and Collins Trelawny on *Perranzabuloe*.

<sup>2</sup> G. Gilbert Scott, *Royal Academy Lectures for 1868*.

The one doorway is always west, and one of the windows to the east, though side-windows are also introduced,—all apparently without glass...In the smaller churches the roofs were frequently formed of stone, but in the larger ones were always of wood. The apsidal termination is, I believe, wholly unknown in these churches; and it would appear from this fact, that the square end of the majority of English chancels is a tradition from the ancient British churches; the apse, which so frequently made its appearance, and was again so frequently removed, being a foreign importation, against which the national feeling rebelled, as opposed to the local tradition."

## CHAPTER II.

## THE BRITISH CHURCH.

Its early foundation.—Connexion with that of Gaul.—Its constitution; Bishops, Clergy, endowments.—Connexion of Church and State.—Distinctive customs.—Mode of administering Baptism and the Lord's Supper.—Observance of Easter.—Tonsure and other personal characteristics.—Non-celibacy.—Monasteries.—Nunneries.—Liturgy.—“Cym-morthau.”—Customs at wells.

IN order to give an account of the native Church as it existed at and from the period with which this history commences, there is happily no need to enter into the vexed questions as to when and by whom Christianity was first introduced into Great Britain. Whether it was by St. James or Simon Zelotes, Joseph of Arimathea or Aristobulus, St. Paul or St. Peter, or even whether it was by any or by none of these, need not now affect us. It is enough that at the end of the second century, as Tertullian testifies, “regions of Britain, inaccessible to the Romans, were subdued to Christ”;<sup>1</sup> that from A.D. 386-400 we have abundant evidence from St. Chrysostom, St. Jerome, and Sozomen, that there was here “a settled Church, with churches, altars, Scriptures, discipline, holding the Catholic faith, and having intercourse with Rome and Palestine”;<sup>2</sup> and that A.D. 602 or 603, during the lifetime of Kentigern, the British Bishops, in their conference with Augustine, asserted the independence of their Church, resisting his assumed supremacy on national rather than doctrinal grounds. Indeed, their faith was one, for the Roman terminology had not

<sup>1</sup> “Britannorum inaccessa Romanis loca, Christo vero subdita.”—*Tertull.* *adv. Judæos*, c. 7.

<sup>2</sup> *Councils and Ecclesiastical Documents relating to Great Britain and Ireland*, vol. i, p. 10.

then developed into its later signification;<sup>1</sup> but they were resolved not to surrender at his dictation their own rites and customs, which they held to be as truly apostolical as those with which he wished to supplant them.

The direct intercourse which existed between the Churches of Britain and Rome during the early and middle portions of the Roman occupation, seems to have almost died out before the close of that period, and to have been succeeded by a more close and intimate connexion between the Churches of Britain and Gaul. Thus, for instance, British bishops attended the Council of Arles, summoned in 314 to suppress the Donatist heresy: when Hilary, at the request of a Gallican synod, wrote his *History of Synods*, in 358, for their information as to the faith of the Eastern Churches, he dedicated it to the bishops of Britain, whom among others he congratulated on their steadfastness: on the occasion of the great Pelagian controversy, Germanus (Garmon), bishop of Auxerre, and Lupus (Bleiddyn), bishop of Troyes, were deputed by the Gallican Church to come over to the aid of the orthodox Britons: whilst the frequent occurrence of the names Germanus, Hilary, and Martin, in connexion with the dedication of churches, bears witness to their great influence and the honour in which their Church continued to be held. And here, perhaps, we may add, as a sort of appended link, that band of Armorican Britons who, like Cadvan, Tydecho, Mael, and Sulien, being hard pressed at home by the advancing hosts of Clovis, c.

<sup>1</sup> *E. g.* Gregory the Great refused to be called "*Universal Bishop*," and denounced the notion it conveyed as antichristian. The title of "*Pope*" was at this time, and according to some writers continued to be as late as the tenth century, common to all bishops. The title of "*Saint*" was in early times given to mark a man's orthodoxy, or the acceptance of his writings by the Church, in contradistinction to those of heretics, and had quite a different significance from what it acquired after the adoption of the system of canonisation in the tenth century. The term "*Mass*," which originally meant the dismissal of a Church assembly, came by degrees to be used for an assembly and for Church service. Then, from signifying Church service in general, it came to denote the Communion Service in particular; and when applied to this, it assumed a very different meaning after the adoption of the doctrine of transubstantiation, c. 1000 A.D., from that which pertained to it in earlier times.—Hook's *Archbishops*, i, 25.



A.D. 510, sought refuge here, and became the founders of not a few of the churches in this diocese.

It has been said, indeed, that the British Church was not episcopal but presbyterian in form; but this is opposed to the whole tenor of historical evidence, and is to be attributed partly to the unwillingness of a later age to acknowledge it as a branch of the one Catholic and Apostolic Church, and partly to a desire to find in it the type of a system of Church government that is not known to have had any actual existence before the sixteenth century. The mistake seems to have arisen from the fact of a difference having prevailed in the mode of ordaining bishops in the Roman and British Churches, the refusal of the former to acknowledge the validity of the British orders, and the conduct of Wilfrid in the matter. But surely, to take no higher ground, a point of such primary importance as the orders of the Christian ministry would never, if faulty, have been passed over unnoticed by such a man as Augustine; nor would he have failed to require conformity in this respect less than in those far simpler ones, such as the particular mode of administering baptism, and the exact time of keeping Easter. There were, in fact, several bishops in Wales during this period; some of sees that have long since become extinct, such as Llanbadarn, Llanafan Fawr, and Margam; some also without sees, but presiding over monastic or educational institutions;<sup>1</sup> and, judging from the analogy of the Superiors of Iona and the Presbyter Abbots of Fulda in the Scotch Church, there may have been (though in the absence of direct evidence this has been doubted) bishops occupying a subordinate position in the greater monasteries, discharging episcopal functions, such as confirmation and ordination, but without episcopal jurisdiction.

The bishops were at first freely elected by their own clergy and laity, and were consecrated by one of their own order; but that there was any metropolitanship or archiepiscopate, by which one see enjoyed authority over the rest, seems more than doubtful. Indeed, the claim of St. David's to that dignity, advanced in the twelfth century with so much force by Bishop Bernard and by

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<sup>1</sup> *Councils and Eccles. Documents*, vol. i, p. 142.

Giraldus Cambrensis, is stated, on very high authority, to have been put forward in the hope of gaining freedom from Canterbury, and from English nominees to Welsh bishoprics.<sup>1</sup>

As the parishes were at first of great extent, and sparsely inhabited, the clergy lived together, in a simple and homely manner, in a *collegium* or *monasterium*<sup>2</sup> near the principal church; and as the rule of celibacy was never admitted in the British Church, their wives lived with them. Their support was derived, in the first instance, from the free-will offerings of the people; and these took a more systematic form as converts became more numerous, and the obligations of religion, as well as its benefits, better understood. Particular kinds of produce, varying in different localities, were after a time voluntarily taxed or tithed, either for the parish in general or for some particular portion of it. The lords of the soil, again, and especially the founders of new or district churches, would settle some special portion as an endowment, to secure in perpetuity the services of religion for those places in which they felt so deep an interest. Besides which it became a not unusual practice to make a gift or rent-charge, by way of perpetual provision, for some member of the donor's family; in fact, of securing a sort of advowson (*advocationem*) for their heirs. Hence we have Giraldus complaining that in his day "their churches have almost as many parsons and parties as there are principal men in the parish: the sons, after the decease of their fathers, succeed to the ecclesiastical benefices, not by election, but by hereditary right,<sup>3</sup> possessing and polluting the sanctuary of God; and if a prelate should by chance presume to appoint or institute any other person, the people would certainly revenge the injury upon the institutor and the instituted." These different kinds of endowments appear in the *Taxatio* of 1291 as *portiones*. Many of them being very small were afterwards united, and in the late Act for the Commutation of Tithes they were finally lost sight of; but

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<sup>1</sup> *Councils and Eccles. Documents*, i, p. 149.

<sup>2</sup> A collection, at first, of the rude and simple cells or huts described at p. 9.

<sup>3</sup> A similar custom prevailed in Armorica (Britany), and until the present year something very like it in Russia.

in the old terriers we find abundant traces of their original nature and purpose. Thus we meet with "moduses" of endless variety, and such significant expressions as "blith y ddafad," for the parson's lactuals; "ceirch march y person," oats for the parson's horse; "ysgub y glôch," the clerk's, or literally the bellringer's sheaf, etc.<sup>1</sup>

It is only by bearing in mind this private endowment of the early Church, and the various conditions under which the parishes were formed, that we are able to account for the many anomalies which are quite inexplicable on the theory that it was endowed by the State. To protect endowments privately made, or even to add to them, is a very different thing from having been the original donor, as is acknowledged in the case of all modern endowments. This distinction is further exemplified in the spiritual and temporal jurisdiction of the bishops. As the extent of the sees generally coincided with existing civil divisions, so for the enjoyment of the temporalities attached to them, whether in the form of lands or of civil immunities and privileges, it was necessary to obtain the king's sanction or confirmation. "In Hywel Dda's Laws the great principle of the union between Church and State is declared in the duty of the sword to protect the pastoral staff."<sup>2</sup> It appears, moreover, that the bishop and abbot, as well as the king, had their own independent tribunals, called 'Prerogative Courts,' where they were enabled to guard against encroachments upon the rights and honours with which their respective establishments were invested.<sup>3</sup> Nevertheless the special supremacy of the king is distinctly acknowledged. To the king belongs the land of all the kingdom."<sup>4</sup> All holders of Church property were accordingly required, on the accession of a new king, to prove before him their privileges and immunities in order to have them confirmed.<sup>5</sup> If they did not

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<sup>1</sup> *Pennant Melangell Register.*

<sup>2</sup> "Gladius pedum pastorale protegere debet."—Wotton's *Leges Wallicæ*, ii, 28.

<sup>3</sup> "Tres sunt curiæ prerogativæ, curia regis, curia episcopi, et curia abbatis. Unusquisque enim horum trium curiam auctoritate propria tenere potest."—*Ibid.* iv, 141.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* iv, 126.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.* ii, 8.



fulfil the conditions of their tenure the sovereign had power to dispossess them. Those conditions consisted, for the most part, either of rents, services, duties, mulcts, or attendances, of various degrees.<sup>1</sup> There were some dignitaries, however, who were totally exempt from all save that ordinary homage which they owed in common with every other subject. Thus the Church of Menevia (St. David's) is declared in Hywel's code to be entirely free.<sup>2</sup> But though the king could deprive bishops and abbots of their temporalities, in case they fell short in their due allegiance, he might not alienate those rights from the institutions to which they had been originally granted, without incurring the awful censures of the Church;<sup>3</sup> and whilst the Church was protected in her rights by the civil ruler, his authority was conferred upon him, through the representatives of Christ, in his consecration. The affairs of the nation were hallowed by the Church, and transacted under her guidance and sanction. Hywel Dda would not revise the laws without the aid of a proportion of the clergy, "lest the laity should enact anything that was contrary to the Holy Scripture";<sup>4</sup> and in complete accord with this we have, on the part of the clergy, their traditional reply to the proposals of Augustine: "*Noluerunt Monachi Bangorenses*" (as Whelock puts it in his edition of Bede, p. 114) "*absque suorum consensu ac licentia, imò ut rex Aluredus præclare insinuavit, absque suæ gentis et senatorum imprimis suffragio, ab antiquis Ecclesiæ Britannicæ ritibus discedere.*"

What those ancient rites and customs were must be our next inquiry. When Augustine came to this country, he found the same rites used here, as he had observed in Gaul, and remarked upon them as differing in many respects from those of his own Church. Thus, in writing to Gregory for instructions, he asks,

<sup>1</sup> One of the most universal tokens of subjection appears to have been the *obediw*, which was a sum of money, or portion of goods, paid to the lord upon the death of a tenant. "*Bona mortui episcopi omnia regi addicentur, exceptis vestimentis et jocalibus, cæterisque ad ecclesiam pertinentibus.*"—*Ibid.* ii, 13, and iv, 141.

<sup>2</sup> "*Menevia libera est ab omni servitio.*"—Lib. ii, ch. 9.

<sup>3</sup> *Liber Landavensis*, passim; also *Llyfr Côch*.

<sup>4</sup> *Ecclesiastical Antiquities of the Cymry*, pp. 179, 180.



"Why is one manner of celebrating the Holy Communion used in the holy Roman Church, and another in that of the Gauls?" and in his conference with the British bishops, he alludes to many other diversities, and specifies two. "You act in many particulars contrary to our customs, or rather to the customs of the Universal Church, and yet if you will comply with me in these three points, viz., to keep Easter at the due time; to perform the administration of baptism, by which we are born again to God, according to the custom of the Holy Roman and Apostolic Church; and jointly with us to preach the Word of God to the nation of the Angles, we will readily tolerate all your other customs though contrary to our own." What the exact differences were in the mode of administering baptism,<sup>1</sup> and the Lord's Supper,<sup>2</sup> we are not told; but the Easter dispute arose, curiously enough, from a too close following of an earlier Roman cycle. The Britons were not, as some persons have supposed, Quartodecimans.<sup>3</sup> We have the authority of the Emperor Constantine himself for saying that they, as well as other nations, observed Easter as the Council of Nice directed.<sup>4</sup> From this Council, to which they gave express assent, down to the middle of the fifth century, they followed the Western Church, and the Western Church followed Rome, in its gradual, practical divergence from that of Alexandria and the East, arising mainly from the use of different cycles. The Britons, in fact, adhered to the

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<sup>1</sup> "Single as opposed to trine immersion seems to be the most probable solution; that it was the omission of Chrism (true of the later Irish Church) or of Confirmation, is negatived by the mention of both in St. Patrick's *Epist. ad Coroticum*."—Haddan and Stubbs' *Councils and Ecclesiastical Documents*, vol. i, p. 153.

<sup>2</sup> "A multiplicity of Collects is the only point specified (viz. by Agrestius against Eustasius at the Council of Macon, A.D. 624 or 627); and this refers directly to the Scottish or Columban liturgy, which, however, was probably the British, or one closely akin to it. That it was the use of azymes (according to Döllinger), the Church of Rome using at the time leavened bread, appears to be a mere conjecture founded on the undoubted prevalence of that custom in the West, including England, at a later time."—*Councils and Eccles. Doc.*, i, 154, and note.

<sup>3</sup> The Quartodecimans, in the second century, kept Easter according to the Jewish Passover, whether falling on Sunday or not.

<sup>4</sup> *Euseb. de Vita Constant.*, lib. iii, c. 19.

eighty-four years cycle, attributed to Sulpicius Severus; but which had been supplanted successively at Rome itself by the five hundred and thirty-two years cycle of Victor Aquitan, A.D. 457, and by that of nineteen years of Dionysius Exiguus, A.D. 525. These changes had been adopted in order to bring the Roman reckoning into harmony with the correcter Alexandrian, and were now rejected by the Britons, who clung to that which had been Roman, but which Rome herself had learned to give up.”<sup>1</sup> Elvod, styled Archbishop of Bangor, a title assumed, according to some authorities, by virtue of the titular sovereignty of Aberffraw, within his diocese over the other provinces of Wales, but according to others, given to him by the Pope for his endeavours to settle the Easter question, tried in the latter part of the eighth century to introduce the Roman cycle, but the other bishops did not concur therein, and “on his death in 809 there was a great tumult among the ecclesiastics on account of the same question; for the bishops of Llandaff and Menevia would not succumb to the Archbishop of Gwynedd, being themselves archbishops of older privilege.”<sup>2</sup> How soon after this the Roman computation was adopted does not appear, but it was probably during the century. Of the other customs above alluded to, some, no doubt, referred to the dress and personal bearing of the clergy, and were such as we find specified by Archbishop Peckham in his *Letter of Injunctions*<sup>3</sup> to Bishop Anian in 1284, in which he requires the latter to bring his clergy to conformity with their brethren in other churches: “Ordinantes ut de cetero clerici vestræ diocesis in habitu et ornatu, in gestu et affatu ceteris per orbem clericis se conforment; ut unius cum aliis appareant honestatis; ut nec coma prolixior, nec strictior corona, nec locutionis impetus nec linguæ literalis inopia, nec radiatæ chlamydis aut vestis insolentia, nec capitis aut pedum aut tibi-arum nuditas, ipsos signaculo vel nota derisibili faciat ab aliis discrepare.” From which we see that even in those simple and primitive days, clerical attire, the cutting of the hair and the shape and colour of the coat, were as much an object of controversy as in our own times. The “tonsure,” we know, was a

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<sup>1</sup> *Councils and Eccles. Doc.*, i, 152, 153.

<sup>2</sup> *Brut y Tywysogion*, sub ann. 755 et 809.

<sup>3</sup> Browne Willis, ii, p. 39. Append. XV.

notable party-emblem. "The Eastern clergy were accustomed to shave the entire front of the head, leaving the hair on the hinder part untouched; and this, or a very similar custom, the British clergy followed;<sup>1</sup> whereas the Italians shaved their heads according to what they called the tonsure of St. Peter, which consisted of a circle of hair round the shorn head, supposed to represent the crown of thorns, and called therefore the coronal tonsure. So completely was this considered a party badge, that when Wilfrid left the Celtic party for the Italian, the first thing he did was to submit his head to the scissors of a Roman barber.<sup>2</sup> To such an extent could party feeling be carried in that age, as in our own, that the Italians accused their opponents of wearing the mark of Simon Magus."<sup>3</sup> A later mark of difference, and one that led, in the course of time, to much bitterness of feeling and expression, was the celibacy of the clergy. Its obligation was never acknowledged by the British clergy, who, like those of the Greek, Armenian, and other branches, were allowed to marry.<sup>4</sup> Even in England it was not enjoined till the reign of Edgar, c. 975 A.D., when Dunstan introduced his modification of the Rule of St. Benedict. From this time, however, it became the fashion to call those who wished to retain their wives and parochial cures "Seculars," and those who quitted both to live after the constitution of the new order, "Regulars." Still it was long before the rule was generally accepted even there; for so late as 1108 A.D. we find Pope Paschal granting to Archbishop Anselm a dispensing power to admit the sons of clergymen to orders, on the remarkable ground that "almost the greater and the better part of the English clergy" belonged to this class.<sup>5</sup> In the course of the controversy on the subject, the Regulars took to calling the wives of their opponents their "concubines;" a circumstance it is most necessary to bear in mind as the key to such calumnies as that alleged

<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Gildæ Epistola* and "Coma proluxior, strictior corona." *Suprà*.

<sup>2</sup> Eddi, c. 6.

<sup>3</sup> Hook's *Archbishops*, p. 15.

<sup>4</sup> When an attempt was made *ab extra* to enforce it upon the clergy of Llandaff in 961, we are told that it resulted in a great disturbance; so that it was considered best to allow the matrimony of the priests.—*Brut y Tywyssion*.

<sup>5</sup> Robertson's *Church History*, ii, p. 679.



in the *Injunctions* of Archbishop Peckham, "*incontinentiæ vitium clerum vestrum ab antiquo maculasse enormiter ultra modum*," as a ground for enforcing the celibate rule. A similar caution is necessary for a right estimate of the charge of "incest" elsewhere brought against the laics; as it was one that turned upon a list of prohibited degrees, accepted indeed by those who made the charge, but never acknowledged by those against whom it was brought. They marry, writes Giraldus Cambrensis, "in quarto gradu et quinto passim, in tertio quoque plerumque, quod non est honor Dei ante oculos."

We have already stated that it was the common practice of the clergy to live together near the mother church of their parish. In addition, however, to the collegium or monasterium of the regularly ordained clergy, there were also religious houses in which laymen who had received the tonsure,<sup>1</sup> lived together under special privileges<sup>2</sup> for the purposes of education and worship, as well as for the cultivation of the useful and ornamental arts; such were Cor-Eurgain, Bangor-is-coed, Ty-Gwyn ar Daf, and many others described in Williams's *Ecclesiastical Antiquities*.<sup>3</sup> There appear also to have been similar institutions for women; such, for instance, as the one founded by Winifred at Gwytherin; and as the seventh century was the period during which female saints were said to be most numerous, we may conclude that this was the time when nunneries<sup>4</sup> were most in repute.

The British Liturgy, or mode of conducting Divine Worship, was one peculiar to Britain, and has already been stated to have differed from that in use in the Roman Church, but to have been similar to that of Gaul, on the two important points of Baptism and the Lord's Supper; and as the latter Church has

<sup>1</sup> The "*tonsure*, down to the sixth century, took place at the time of entering into holy orders; but from that time was conferred without any admission to orders, and instead of being "*signum ordinis*" was called "*signum destinationis ad ordinem*."

<sup>2</sup> Wotton's *Leges Wallicæ*. Sæpe.

<sup>3</sup> Chapter xiii.

<sup>4</sup> The nunneries were not limited to single women, any more than the monasteries to single men. In 721 a Roman council anathematised married nuns. The regular conventual life for women does not date earlier than the institution of St. Dominic, in the thirteenth century.—Walcot's *Sacred Archaeology*.



been asserted to have derived its Liturgy primarily from the Exarchate of Ephesus, or of the Churches of Asia and Phrygia,<sup>1</sup> it may explain the prominence given to the Gospel of St. John in the British form of oath. A further illustration of the same connection is suggested by the title of the famous copy of the Gospels,<sup>2</sup> that once belonged to the Cathedral of Llanelwy and was held in the greatest veneration throughout this and the neighbouring dioceses down to the Reformation, when it was lost; that title, under its many aspects, bearing a Greek rather than a Latin stamp.<sup>3</sup> The wise counsel given by Gregory to Augustine, "to select from each church those things that were pious, religious, and correct, and to instil these when combined into a system, into the minds of the English for their use,"<sup>4</sup> accounts for the native element in the common substratum that underlies the uses of York, Bangor, Sarum and Hereford, and also supplies a clue to such peculiarities as the observance of the Festival of Trinity Sunday and the computation of the Sundays to Advent from it, and not, as in all offices of the Roman type, from Pentecost.<sup>5</sup>

The Communion Service was distinguished for a multiplicity of Collects; and that of Ordination, for the custom of anointing the hands of deacons, and anointing the hands and heads of bishops and priests. The Lessons of Scripture also used in the service were taken from a version distinct from any of the known ante-Hieronymian versions, and peculiar to the British Church. The bishops were consecrated by a single bishop, and they had a peculiar mode of consecrating churches and monasteries.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Palmer's *Origines Liturgicæ*, i, sect. 9.

<sup>2</sup> *Llyfr Côch*. Persæpe.

<sup>3</sup> Evengulthen,—Euaggulthen,—Evenegyllthen,—Ereuegilthes.

<sup>4</sup> Bede's *Ecclesiastical History*, i, p. 27.

<sup>5</sup> Annotated Prayer Book, i, p. 114. "It seems probable that this distinctive ritual mark is a relic of the independent origin of the Church of England, similar to those peculiarities which were noticed by St. Augustine, and which were attributed by the ancient British bishops to some connexion with St. John. In this case it is at least significant that it was St. John through whom the doctrine of the Holy Trinity was most clearly revealed; and also that the early Church of England appears never to have been infested by the heresies on this subject which troubled other portions of the Christian world."

<sup>6</sup> *Councils and Eccles. Documents of Great Britain and Ireland*, vol. i. App. D.

One memorable trait has been noted by Giraldus as eminently distinguishing the Britons, and deserves to be mentioned,—their great care for their poor: “Nemo in hac gente mendicus, omnium enim hospitia omnibus sunt communia”; and again, “De quolibet pane apposito primum fractionis angulum pauperibus donant”;<sup>1</sup> a characteristic which has its representative in the “Cymmorthau,” or gatherings to help one another in harvest time, at funerals and weddings, and on many other occasions.

It is, however, in connexion with “Wells” that the earliest customs of all have been handed down; for we have here traces of many heathenish and pre-Christian rites that have survived, it may be said, to our day the endless vicissitudes of civil and ecclesiastical change. The earliest Celtic inhabitants of the island brought over with them the patriarchal habits of a country and a climate in which “wells of water” were esteemed among the most valuable of possessions; and retained the customs of their fatherland under the altered aspects of their new home, just as our own friends still keep our Christmas in Australia and New Zealand. It was around these that the elders met to discuss the fortunes of their race, or to gossip about the news of the day. It was here the young men engaged with friendly rivalry in their national Olympics, “Ypedwar Camp ar hugain.” It was here that old and young assembled periodically to “drink sugar and water,” or join in some other emblematic act in token of a common bond. It was here, too, that the Christian missionary often met the assembled multitudes, and preached to them the Word of Life. Here their first converts were baptised; and hence, after a church had been built, the water for holy Baptism long continued to be taken; and when the parishioners wished to “walk their bounds” on the Rogation days, it was at these that for many generations they first met for a special service;<sup>2</sup> thus, in theory at least, hallowing by religion their union of the present with the past. Around these, too, it must be added, have lingered longest the traces of a heathen mythology. The Roman custom of sacrificing a cock to Æsculapius, for restoration to

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<sup>1</sup> *Cambria Descriptio*, c. x, pp. 257, 274.

<sup>2</sup> As at Knockin, at least down to 1710, and Bodfari to 1735.

health,—itself it may be a dim shadow of the great doctrine of Atonement,—may be easily traced in the rites performed, even during the last century, at Ffynnon Diar or Deifr, in Bodfari, and at Ffynnon Tecla in Iâl. The ill fame of Ffynnon Elian, again, continues even to this day, though in a less degree, to possess a terrorising influence, such as I can only compare to the awe with which I have found a notorious conjurer in the Black Country regarded by some in England. The assigning to certain wells a special healing property, whatever its real origin, owes its general acceptance and power, there can be little doubt, to the miraculous cure at the Pool of Bethesda;<sup>1</sup> the five porches of which were reproduced in the beautiful structure that encloses St. Winifred's Well at Holywell, the ruined remains of St. Mary's Well at Wigfair, and the remaining outlines of Ffynnon Asa near Cwm.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> St. John, v, 2.

<sup>2</sup> Having treated the subject of this chapter with special reference to the needs of the present work, I would recommend to those who wish to study the history of the British Church more fully, the very learned and valuable work on *Councils and Ecclesiastical Documents relating to Great Britain and Ireland*, edited after Spelman and Wilkins, by A. W. Haddan, B.D., and W. Stubbs, M.A. Oxford, 1869.

## CHAPTER III.

## LANDMARKS IN ITS EARLY HISTORY.

The Conference at Augustine's Oak.—Massacre of Bangor.—Death of Oswald.  
 —Invasion of Offa.—Laws of Howel Dda.—Domesday notices.—The  
 Lord-Marchers and their ecclesiastical policy.—Appropriations.—Ele-  
 ments in the suppression of the British Church.

HAVING described the origin of the see, and the system and order of its Church government, we now proceed to a consideration of some of those notable events which may be regarded as the landmarks of its early history.

The first and most important of these, both from the light it has thrown upon the character of the native Church, and from its bearings on its after history, is the Conference of the British bishops with Augustine in 602 A.D. This Conference has already been treated of in its relation to the rites and customs of the British Church; but it requires a fuller notice here in its relation to the Anglo-Saxons. At the first meeting "Augustine called upon them to unite with him in the conversion of the heathen. This was a duty admitted by all; and then assuming, without proof that he was right, and that they were wrong, he demanded, as the condition of such fellowship, the surrender of certain principles, and the renunciation of certain practices, which were the peculiarities of the British Church; and which, as marks of their independence, were peculiarly dear to them." This condition having been rejected, Augustine, at a second Conference, offered them the following ultimatum as the *minimum* requirement on which he would accept them as his suffragans, viz., that they should observe Easter according to the Roman computation, adopt the Roman form of Baptism, and unite with him in evangelizing the Saxons. "This last term of agreement," continues Dean Hook,



“was evidently adopted to insinuate a charge against them, if they rejected the proposals, of preferring ceremonies comparatively unimportant to an evident Christian duty.<sup>1</sup> Among the seven British bishops who were present at the Conference may probably have been the Bishop of Llanelwy, St. Asaph, or his successor, Tyssilio, the son of Brochwel Ysgythrog, a valiant champion of the independence of the British Church. The advice of the anchorite whom they consulted on their way, and the intemperate conduct of Augustine on their arrival, and during the interview; their final rejection of the terms, and the angry retort of Augustine, that “since they would not have peace with brothers, they should have war with enemies; and since they were unwilling to preach to the nation of the Angles the way of life, they should suffer death at their hands, as the ministers of divine vengeance;—these matters have been minutely related by Bede,<sup>2</sup> and are well known; but so related as to obscure, in a great degree, the real points at issue, and to leave on the mind an impression alike unfavourable to the bishops, and unjust to their Church. Saxon chroniclers have taken occasion from it to censure the British Church over harshly for not having attempted the conversion of the heathen Saxons, and modern writers have too often followed in their track without making due allowance, on the one hand, for the special conditions attached to Augustine’s offer; and on the other, for the relative attitude of the Britons and the Saxons. The former were still smarting under a bitter sense of the wrongs and cruelties inflicted by their conquerors, and so ill disposed to join in the offices of Christian love towards them; and they, on their side, still clinging to their heathen notions of a Walhalla of carnage and sensuality, were but little inclined to lessons of purity and peace and self-denial from the despised Britons; but after a time the gentle influence of a settled home, and possibly, we may add, of the British wives they married, disposed them to accept the Gospel Message, and accounts for the apparently sudden conversion of entire provinces to the Christian faith.

The angry threat with which Augustine closed the Conference,

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<sup>1</sup> *Lives of the Archbishops*, chapt. ii.

<sup>2</sup> Book ii, ch. 2.

and which was probably but a hasty ebullition of temper, came soon to be regarded as a prophecy; and its fulfilment recognised in the massacre of the monks of Bangor, and the destruction of their monastery, by Ethelfrid of Northumbria, a few years later, A.D. 613.<sup>1</sup> In the events by which this sad episode was followed, portions of this diocese bore a melancholy part. The massacre of Bangor was speedily avenged by the combined forces of Cadvan, King of Gwynedd, Brochwel Ysgythrog, Prince of Pengwern (the then capital of Powys), and others, who signally defeated Ethelfrid on the banks of the Dee. A few years after this, A.D. 620, Edwin of Northumbria advanced against Cadwallawn, the son and successor of Cadvan, and defeating him in the bloody battle of Caer-Digoll (recorded in the *Triads* as one of "the three discolourings of the Severn") forced him to flee for safety into Ireland. Some twelve years later, having returned thence, and married the sister of Penda, King of Mercia, Cadwallawn proceeded to take vengeance on his enemy, defeated and slew Edwin, and ravaged his country; but was himself vanquished and slain by Oswald, the following year, at Denisbourne.

In an expedition undertaken by Oswald not long after this (c. 642), probably to avenge the injuries inflicted by Cadwallawn, we find him engaged with Penda, the brother-in-law, and ally of the latter, in a deadly struggle at Maserfeld. In this struggle Oswald's army was routed, and himself slain; and according to the commonly received legend, his mangled remains were exposed in derision on a cross, thence called "Croes Oswallt," or Oswald's cross.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "Sicque completum est præsagium sancti pontificis Augustini, quamvis ipso jam multo ante tempore ad cœlestia regna sublato, ut etiam temporalis interitus ultione sentirent perfidi, quod oblata sibi perpetuæ salutis consilia spreverant."—Beda, *H. E.*, ii.

<sup>2</sup> It may however, I think, be fairly questioned whether this last piece of savagery be not an afterthought, invented, as was so often the case (see M. Alfred Maury's Essay, *Sur les Légendes pieuses du Moyen Age*, Paris, 1843), to account for the British form of the name; a form differing slightly, be it observed, from its Saxon representative, "Oswald's treow," i. e., Oswald's tree; and dating, most likely, from the time when the present town of Oswestry began to supersede the earlier Meresberie or Maesbury. (Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*, vol. x.) The village of Woolston (Oswald's-stane, or Oswald's tun) and Oswald's Well attest his close connexion with the place.

The invasion of Offa, a later king of Mercia (c. 790 A.D.), his advance into the very parish of the cathedral city, and his fatal victory on Rhuddlan Marsh hard by, next demand a passing notice; not so much for any authentic details we possess of the event, as for the havoc and devastation that must have attended it. The same remark will also apply to the construction of the dyke that still bears his name, "Clawdd Offa"; and which, hemming in the Britons within stricter limits, served as a formidable barrier to freebooting expeditions from either side. The extent of the Saxon encroachment is still further testified by the nomenclature of places all along the border-land, such as *Haordine* (Hawarden), *Saleurdine* (Selattyn), *Wrexham*, *Buckley*, *Erbistock*, etc. The deep impression made, and the bitter sense of injury provoked by the Saxons, may be recognised in the simple fact that down to this day their name, "Saeson," has stood as the one representative in Welsh of the successive Saxon, English, Danish, and Norman invaders. And when we bear in mind that one of the epithets often applied to them about this period, was that of "unbelievers" ("Y Saeson *digred*"), we may be quite certain that ecclesiastical persons and places were among the first and surest to feel their vengeance.

The influence of the Northmen was much more transitory, perhaps hardly felt at all. The old Vikings, who gave names to some of the prominent points of the sea-coast, such as *Priestholme*, *Orm's-Head*, and probably *Gwaun-y-Scôr*, appear to have had a settlement at *Gwespyr*, or else to have held it as an outpost to their colony in *Wirral*; and to have named the estuary of the *Dee*, which they crossed in going from the one place to the other, the "*Hvit-fiord*" (*Whitford*) or *Sandy Creek*.

The passing of the *Laws of Hywel Dda* in the early part of the

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But then we have a *Ffynnon Oswallt*, again, in the parish of *Whitford*; and close to it *Bryn y Groes*, which, as likely as not, may have been named after the same saint. Crosses, moreover, were set up to mark the mission-stations as well as the graves of Christian saints; so that we have *Croes Wylan*, *Croes Ati*, *Croes Engan*, and many others, representing sometimes the one idea, and sometimes the other. The English form, *Oswald's Tree*, finds its counterpart in that of *Onen Asa*, *Maen Beuno*, and similar ways of perpetuating the memory of popular saints and heroes.



tenth century, between 914 and 928 A.D., requires a passing notice here; not so much, indeed, for any special connexion with this see, as for their general importance in connexion with the Church. They are very explicit on all ecclesiastical matters, and not only bear witness to the complete organisation of the Church at that time; but also, inasmuch as many of their regulations are apparently but a re-enactment or digest of an earlier code of Welsh canons, dating from about the seventh century,<sup>1</sup> they carry back that system and organisation to a much earlier period than some writers have been willing to believe. Chebur, Bishop of St. Asaph, is mentioned in the preface as one of those who, after the Law had been made, and completely written, accompanied Howel "to Rome, to Pope Anastasius, to read the Law, and to see if there were anything contrary to the law of God in it." This journey has been altogether doubted by some as savouring too much of the propensity, so common from about this time, to make everything and every person of any eminence or virtue, to derive those qualities from some connexion with the Roman see;<sup>2</sup> but as there is, in addition to its own assertion and the external testimony of *Brut y Tywysogion* in its favour, some internal evidence in the Code itself, which "mentions twice or thrice (sometimes for the purpose of asserting a contrary law) the law of Rome, both canon and civil,"<sup>3</sup> we may take it for granted that the journey was a fact. Indeed, it is most natural that a good and enlightened prince like Hywel, who had shewn so much care in the original compilation of the Code, "that nothing should be introduced that might be contrary to the Holy Scripture," should, on its completion, go to the ecclesiastical metropolis of the West "to ascertain," as the *Brut* records, "that it was also in accordance

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<sup>1</sup> *Councils and Ecclesiastical Documents*, i, App. A, p. 127 and p. 211.

<sup>2</sup> "Fabulam sapit (quod et in Kentigerno supra observavimus) iter Romanum."—Wharton *De Episc. Assav.*, p. 303.

<sup>3</sup> *Councils and Eccl. Doc.*, p. 211, note A.

<sup>4</sup> Perhaps, too, the custom of *swearing on relics* (*creiriau*) may be taken as another evidence. The explanation of the term in a later portion of the Code represents the custom followed in this country: "There are three relics to swear by, the staff of a priest, the Name of God, and hand in hand with the one sworn to."



with the laws of countries and cities in the receipt of faith and baptism."<sup>1</sup>

The *Domesday Survey* of William the Conqueror, compiled in the year 1086, introduces a new element on the scene, that of the Lords-Marchers, and is highly interesting from the notices it contains of churches and clergy; only that where such notices are omitted, we must bear in mind that the omission is no proof of their non-existence.<sup>2</sup> Of the ten *Churches* enumerated in this diocese, no less than eight were in the hundred of Atiscros, which formed a part of the grant made to Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, and corresponds to the modern county of Flint; not including that portion which lies beyond the Dee, and which was at that time in the hundred of Exestan and the diocese of Cestria (Chester or Lichfield). As the survey was essentially a civil measure, intended to supply a register of lands and their tenures, parochial divisions, as such, did not fall within its scope; indeed, there is sometimes no little difficulty in identifying the actual locality of the church among the several places grouped together in connexion with it. Even the cathedral is not mentioned; but, consistently with the object of the measure, there is a notice of the episcopal *lands*, which are specially exempted from the grant made to Robert of Rhuddlan, the Vice-comes, or Lieutenant, of Earl Hugh. "Rotpert de Roelent ten' de Rege Nort Wales, ad firmā pro xl lib. preter illā terrā quā rex ei dederat in feudo, et preter terras episcopat'."

The subjoined table will shew at a glance the *Domesday* groups, their modern representatives, and the ecclesiastical notices recorded in the *Survey*, so far as relates to this diocese:

"In ATISCROS HUND. :

1. Haordine (*Harwarden*).—Ibi ecclesia ad quam pertinet,
2. Widford (*Whitford*).—Ecclesia.
3. Dissard (*Disserth*); Boteuuaril (*Bodvarl*); Ruargor.—Ibi in dominio ecclesia cum presbitero.

<sup>1</sup> In *Councils and Ecc. Doc.*, i, p. 210. "Bod y cyfreithiau hynny yn gydderddedigion a chyfraith Duw ac a chyfreithiau gwledydd a dinasoedd tiroedd cred a bedydd."

<sup>2</sup> Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*.

4. Inglecroft ; Brunfor (*Brynford*) ; Alchene (*Halkin*).—Ibi in dominio ecclesia cum presbitero.
  5. Danfrond ; Calston (*Kelston* in Llanasa) ; Wesbrie (*Gwespyr*).—Una ecclesia.
  6. Presteton (*Prestatyn*) ; Ruestock (*Meliden*).—Ibi est ecclesia.
  7. Roelent (*Rhuddlan*).—Ecclesia in two medieties.
  8. Cancarnacan (*Carnychan*) ; Wenescol (*Gwaunysgor*).—Una ecclesia.
  9. Quisnan (*Gwysaney*).—Ipsa (terra) ibi cum presbitero.
- In MERSETE HUND. : Meresberie (*Maesbury*).—Ibi ecclesia.
- In TERRA DE GÂL (*Iâl*).—ii presbiteri.
- In CHENLEI (*Cynllaeth*) and DERNIOU (*Edeirnion*).—No notice of eccles. or presb.
- In EXESTAN HUND. : Gretford (*Gresford*).—Ecclesia et presbiter ibi.”

Odeslei (*Hoseley* in Gresford) belonged at this time to St. Werburgh's; and EITUNE (*Eyton* in Bangor) to the see of Lichfield (S'tus Cedde), upon which it had been bestowed by Edward the Confessor on its forfeiture by Prince Gruffydd, upon whom it had been previously conferred: “Rex E. ded regî Grifino totâ terrâ que iacebat trans aquâ que de (*Dee*) vocatur. Sed postqu ipse Griffin forisfecit ei abstulit ab eo hanc trâ & reddid ep̄o de Cestre, et omib' suis hōib' qui antea ipsâ tenebant.” Under the manor of BEDESFELD (*Betisfield*), on the other hand, we find the bishop complaining that Robert, one of the sons of Earl Hugh, had unjustly taken possession of two hides of land which had belonged to the see in the time of King Canute.<sup>1</sup>

These notices lead not inaptly to the consideration of the attitude assumed by the Lords-Marchers towards the native Church, and the influence they brought to bear upon its interests. The worldly wise policy of William in constituting along the borders or marches a body of practically irresponsible chieftains with a commission to acquire whatever they could get, and to keep whatever they could hold, led, as might have been expected, to

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<sup>1</sup> *Domesday*, under “Cestrescire.” I have introduced these notices of Eyton and Betisfield, though not forming part of the then diocese of St. Asaph, on account of their transfer into it in 1861.

the most iniquitous robbery and oppression; and we are not surprised that the same spirit which marked their temporal transactions affected also their ecclesiastical policy. The strongly national sympathies of the native Church would naturally be an offence to them, and the difference of language an additional obstacle; for both these reasons, therefore, they would be anxious to weaken its hold upon their new vassals. Then, besides all this, there were the obligations under which they lay to their own Church, which had sent them forth on their venture with its favour and blessing. Their success enabled them to reward with a cheap generosity its fidelity to their cause, and to gratify at once their sense of religion and their schemes of policy, by transferring into its hands a portion of what they took by violence from the proper owners.<sup>1</sup> This will apply, indeed, to the whole character of the Norman conquest, and to the treatment of the Saxon Church as well as the British; but it fell on the latter with a heavier weight and with more fatal consequences. It is to the Normans we owe the grossly abused custom which, under the several forms of "appropriation," "impropriation," and "sinecurism," has been a very bane of the Church from their time downwards. "The greater prelates, being Normans, did trample upon the inferior clergy, who were generally English," writes Dr. Burn,<sup>2</sup> "increased the pensions which the clergy were to pay them, or else withdrew their stipends; and yet loaded them with new services, and every way oppressed them without mercy. And to complete the servile dependence an artifice was contrived to obtain indulgence from the Pope, that whatever churches they held in advowson, they should commit them to be served by

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<sup>1</sup> Thus A.D. 1093 we find Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, granting to the monks of St. Werburgh's, at Chester, the tithes of Haurdina, of Colesull, of Bissopestred, and of the fisheries of Rueland; to which were added, by his nobles, *e. g.* by Adaliza (his daughter-in-law?), the church of Holiwell and its mill; by William de Punterleya, Batavari, the church and manor, and the wood of Leston for beacons and domestic fuel: by William Meschinus, the church of Dessart; and by William Malburch, a third part of Wepres and the tithe of Yradoc (Hiraddug?). In like manner Sheriff Warin gave the church of St. Oswald (Oswestry), with the tithes of the vill, to the monks of St. Peter's at Shrewsbury.

<sup>2</sup> *Ecclesiastical Law*, i, p. 64.

clerks, who, as to the cure of souls, should be responsible to the bishop; but as to the profits, should be accountable to the abbot or prior and his brethren."

The great and abiding evils which this practice has entailed, will be best illustrated by shewing the fate of the great tithes thus appropriated within this single diocese (the last to fall under the Norman influence), at three several intervals of about three hundred years, namely, at the time of the taxation of Pope Nicholas, A.D. 1291; at the dissolution of the monasteries, in the sixteenth century; and at the Commutation of Tithes as given in the Parliamentary Report of 1836. Thus—

Taxatio of 1291.			Granted to	Commut. to Lay Imp.
Holywell	-	Basingwerk Abbey	Henri ap Harri	- £959 19 3
Wrexham	-	Valle Crucis	Edw. Wotton	- 2374 4 2
Llangollen	-	Ditto	Ditto	- 1051 6 9
Rhuabon	-	Ditto	Ditto	- 1086 0 0
Chirk	-	Ditto	Ditto	- (1)
Llansaintffraid	-	Ditto	Ditto	-
Llandysilio	-	Ditto	Ditto	- 389 0 0
Bryn Eglwys	-	Ditto	Ditto	- 288 10 0
Bettws, Caedewen	-	Strata Marcella	Rowland Hayward	230 5 0
Berriew	-	Ditto	and Thos. Dixon	793 0 0
Llanfair-Caer-Einion	-	Llanllugan	Sir Arthur D'Arey	550 0 0
Llanllwchaiarn	-	Ditto	Ditto	- 220 0 0
Eglwys Rhos	-	Aberconway	Eliseus Wynne	- 489 19 0
Eglwys Fach	-	Ditto	Ditto	- 717 0 0 <sup>2</sup>
Oswestry	-	Shrewsbury Abbey	-	- 2057 12 0
St. Martin's	-	Ditto	-	- 862 0 0
Kinnerley	-	Halston	William Horne	- 650 4 0
Tregynon	-	Ditto	-	- 90 0 0
Dolingenwal	-	Ditto	-	- 70 0 0
Mold	-	Bisham	-	- 1645 8 11
Welshpool	-	-	Ch. Ch. Oxford	- 476 0 0 <sup>3</sup>
Meifod	-	-	Ditto	- 597 17 8
Guilsfield	-	-	Ditto	- 1130 0 0
Gresford	-	-	St. Stephen's,	- 2193 15 0 <sup>4</sup>
			Westminster	157 10 0 <sup>5</sup>

To these appropriations, granted originally to religious houses for religious purposes, but conferred at the dissolution, for the most part, upon courtiers, and ever since perverted to private

<sup>1</sup> Previously transferred to the vicar by Sir W. Myddelton.

<sup>2</sup> Llanrwst School and Almshouse.

<sup>3</sup> Ch. Ch. Oxford.

<sup>4</sup> Dean and Chapter of Winchester.

<sup>5</sup> Lay imp.



uses ; when we add others, made at different times, in augmentation of the episcopal and capitular revenues ; and the sinecures, which until the Act of 1678 in some instances, and that of 1836 in others, were allowed to drain the parochial endowments,—we see of how long standing, and of what wide extent, has been the grievance of the parochial clergy, who had to bear the double onus of duties for which others received the chief pay ; and of complaints to which, not unnaturally, aggrieved parishioners gave vent ; and who, moreover, for one long period (from 1750 to 1830) were not supposed to have any just claim to the higher dignities or to the richer prizes of their profession.

The Order which obtained the largest number of these appropriations was the Cistercian, a branch of the Benedictines, founded at Cîteaux in Burgundy, and first introduced into Wales in A.D. 1143. Being celibates, inspired with foreign sympathies as opposed to the nationalism of the native Church, and possessed with a strong *esprit de corps*, they were well adapted to promote the designs of the Norman marchers ; and so we soon find them, under their protection, establishing or else appropriating houses at Basingwerk, Strata Marcella, Valle Crucis, and elsewhere ; monopolising by degrees the chief ecclesiastical appointments, and gradually supplanting the parochial clergy in the more important cures ; and so steadily assimilating the British Church to that of Canterbury, and drawing it into its obedience long before it actually lost its independence. The Crusades, too, bore a share in the process, as well from the spirit they gave rise to as from the needs they created, and the influence they continued to exercise after the establishment of the order of Knights Hospitallers at Halston, with its dependent institution at Dolygynwal, *i. e.*, Ysppyty Ifan. In the forefront of all, however, must be placed “the fearful abuse of spiritual powers and the exceeding worldliness of the Church, exhibited in all the relations of England to Wales, and especially in the monstrous wickedness with which excommunications and interdicts were scattered about at random,” to back up the political designs of the crown.<sup>1</sup> Of particular instances we shall have to speak hereafter ;

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<sup>1</sup> *Councils and Eccles. Doc.*, pref., p. xix.

but the general character and inequality of the struggle may be summed up not inaptly (*mutatis mutandis*, and taking in the wider field of Church and State) in the language in which Giraldus describes his contest for the freedom of St. David's from the supremacy of Canterbury: "On the one side you will see royal favour, affluence of riches, numerous and affluent suffragan bishops, a great abundance of learned men, and well skilled in the laws; on the other a deficiency of all these things, and a *total privation* of justice. On which account the recovery of its ancient rights will not easily be effected but by means of those great changes and vicissitudes which kingdoms experience from various and unexpected events."<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Hoare's *Giraldus*, ii, 6.

## CHAPTER IV.

## HISTORY TO THE ANNEXATION.

Process of bringing the Welsh Church into subjection to Canterbury.—Gilbert.—Geoffrey of Monmouth.—Godfrey.—Adam and his controversy about Kerry.—Archbishop Baldwin's visitation.—Owen Cyfeiliog.—Appropriations of Reiner and his successors.—Anian II.—Controversy as to the privileges of the see.—Grants of lands at St. Martin's and at Llandegla.—Controversies as to the patronage and limits of the see.—Disfavour with Edward I.—Reconciliation.—Annexation of Wales.—Visitation of Archbishop Peckham.

THE twelfth century ushers in a series of persistent and finally successful efforts on the part of the English king to subject the Welsh Church to the jurisdiction of Canterbury, by forcing his nominees into its bishoprics, and requiring their consecration by the English metropolitan. To this treatment the Welsh princes and people offered a long, but owing to their divided and weakened condition, an ineffectual resistance,—a resistance sometimes confined to a protest against the proceedings being considered as done of right, sometimes embodied in the election of another bishop according to their own customs, and sometimes breaking out into violence and bloodshed. Thus in A.D. 1109, Hervæus, a Breton, a favourite of William Rufus, and by him forced into the see of Bangor A.D. 1092, was compelled to quit his diocese, which he had governed with haughtiness and severity, and to seek safety in England.<sup>1</sup> In A.D. 1115, Bernard, a Norman, and confessor to Henry I's queen, was thrust upon St. David's; but the clergy refusing to acknowledge him, elected in his stead one Daniel ap Sulien, Archdeacon of Powys, eminent for his exertions to effect a reconciliation between North and South Wales.<sup>2</sup> Upon

<sup>1</sup> *Councils and Eccles. Doc.*, i, p. 303.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid*, p. 308, note a.

whose death, in A.D. 1124 or 1127, they appear willingly or unwillingly to have accepted Bernard, the first Norman prelate in Wales; who, however, instead of carrying out obediently the designs of the king, became henceforward a sturdy champion of the rights of his see against the assumptions of Canterbury.<sup>1</sup> In A.D. 1125 a proposal was made by the king (Henry I) and others, in the first year of Pope Honorius, to transfer St. Asaph and Bangor, with Chester, from the province of Canterbury to that of York, in order to end the strife between the two archbishops.<sup>2</sup> The description there given of St. Asaph, lying midway between Chester and Bangor, as “pro vastitate et barbarie episcopo vocantem,” will account for its omission in the list of Welsh sees given by Henry of Huntingdon, who wrote about ten years later, and who remarks of the three bishops whom he does name (*e. g.*, St. David’s, Bangor, and Glamorgan), that they were “nularum urbium episcopi propter desolationem Walliæ.”<sup>3</sup> The “altum silentium,” as Wharton calls it, which had so long brooded over this diocese, was at length broken when Gilbert, Bishop-elect, received consecration from the Archbishop of Canterbury, being the first bishop of this see consecrated out of Wales.

From this time we have, at least, the names of the successive bishops, and in some instances details of their life and episcopate. The most eminent of the earlier ones was his immediate successor, the celebrated Geoffrey of Monmouth (Galffrai ab Arthur), A.D. 1152-1154; who, however, for some reason or other, never came to his see, but died at Llandaff, apparently during divine service (“at Mass”), and was buried there in the cathedral, in which he held the dignity of archdeacon of Monmouth. Godfrey, who succeeded A.D. 1158, appears to have been more of a courtier than an ecclesiastic, and in greater favour with the English king than with the clergy and laity of his diocese. The successes of Owen Gwynedd, who, after defeating the forces of Henry II at

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<sup>1</sup> Jones and Freeman’s *St. David’s*, and Wynne’s edition of *Coradoc’s History of Wales*, *sub ann.* 1124 A.D.

<sup>2</sup> *Councils and Eccles. Doc.*, p. 316, and note. “The strife” was probably as to precedence, as to which of the two was primate, and had a right to consecrate the other.

<sup>3</sup> *Brut y Tywysogion*, in anno 1154.



Ewloe and at Coleshill, remained for some time master of the country, seem to have made the see too hot for its Norman occupant, who about A.D. 1165, "*paupertate et infestatione Wallensium compulsus, sedem suam deseruit*,"<sup>1</sup> and fled into England. There he received from the king the abbacy of Abingdon, to hold *in commendam* with his bishopric ; but he soon rendered himself obnoxious to the Archbishop (Becket) by presuming to exercise his episcopal functions in another's diocese, and against his will ; and especially by absolving certain persons whom the Archbishop had laid under excommunication. The latter thereupon calls upon him to return to his see, or resign it, and not to trespass upon another's pasture. Finally, being complained of by the Canons of St. Asaph in a Council held at Westminster, A.D. 1175, for non-residence, he was compelled to elect between his bishopric and his abbacy ; and choosing the latter, either for its greater security or for its greater wealth ("*utpote quaestuosius*"), he resigned the see, and was succeeded therein by Adam, a Canon of Paris, but a Welshman by birth.<sup>2</sup>

The famous controversy relating to the jurisdiction of Kerry, in which he became involved with his old fellow-student, Giraldus Cambrensis, is highly important for the light it throws upon the ecclesiastical history and customs of the day. The occasion was the dedication, or rather the re-dedication, of the parish church during a vacancy in the see of St. David's, A.D. 1175. Kerry being in the lordship or march of Montgomery, Adam was invited by two of the local chieftains, Einion Glyd and Cadwallawn, and some of the clergy, to come and dedicate the church ; but on proceeding to do so was confronted by Giraldus, who, as Archdeacon of Brecon, and representative of the see of St. David, solemnly inhibited him "*ex parte Dei, Dominique Papæ et Archiepiscopi necnon et Regis Angliæ, in ejus manu et custodia tunc erat Ecclesia S. Davidis, paulo ante orbata pastore, ne falcem mitteret in messem alienam.*" To this the Bishop rejoined by quoting the letters of the Archbishop confirming to

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<sup>1</sup> Wharton *De Episcopis Assavens.*, p. 310.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 310 ; and *Councils and Eccles. Doc.*, i, 362-4, 378. Godfrey was also deprived of his abbey. "*Sic deceptus amisit utrumque.*" (Hoveden.)

him the see of Llanelwy, "with all its appurtenances"; and by producing, in further support of his claim, an ancient book which declared that not Kerry only, but *all* the churches between the Wye and the Severn, "*ad ecclesiam Laneluensem jure parochiali pertinere.*" This was in complete accord with the ancient arrangement which assigned to this diocese the province of Powys, of which Kerry formed a part; but it was not allowed to stand against the practice of three hundred years, during which it was alleged by Giraldus that Kerry had belonged to St. David's. Judging from the retinue that attended the Bishop from Powysland and Caedewen, and the armed body which on the shortest notice answered the summons of the Archdeacon, it would appear that the dispute had been one of some standing, and had now come to its expected crisis. The whole account is curious. On the morning of the dedication two of the clergy (for the church was a collegiate foundation), after first hiding the keys, set out to meet the Bishop. Meanwhile Giraldus, the archdeacon, suddenly appears at the gates, and having with some difficulty obtained admission, has the bells rung in token of possession.<sup>1</sup> Learning definitely, through his rural dean, that the Bishop was coming in his official capacity, he warns him not to enter into another's field; and to the Bishop's threat of excommunication he replies that it did not signify to him as he was not his bishop, and hints that he, too, could and would try that experiment. And when at length the Bishop, wearing his mitre, and holding his pastoral staff, solemnly advanced to put his threat into execution, Giraldus had the church door thrown open, and issued forth with a train of priests and clergy robed in surplices and stoles, with the other sacerdotal vestments, and preceded by lighted candles and a processional cross. The two parties stood face to face; and when the Bishop began in a loud voice to excommunicate the Archdeacon, the latter, in still louder tones, began to excommunicate him: and to add solemnity to the sentence, he ordered all the bells to be tolled in the slow and peculiar manner ("*simul omnes trino intervallo*") usual on such like occasions. The issue was that the Bishop turned on his heel,

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<sup>1</sup> "*Tanquam in investituræ signum et possessionis.*"

and galloped off, pursued by the sticks and stones and yells of the multitude, as was always the case whenever those ominous sounds were heard. Be it added, however, to the honour of both the disputants, that the Archdeacon's steadfast maintenance of the rights of his see secured to him ever afterwards the respect and esteem of his old fellow pupil, the defeated Bishop.

Some twelve years later this same Giraldus accompanied Archbishop Baldwin in his Visitation tour of the Welsh dioceses, of which he has given us an account in his *Itinerarium Cambriæ*. This tour was undertaken with the twofold object of preaching the Crusades, and of bringing the Welsh clergy into conformity with those of England. When they reached the poor little city of Llanelwy ("paupercula sedes Lanelvensis"), the Archbishop celebrated Mass "in pontificalibus," as it had never before been seen there, as Higden remarks in his *Polychronicon*. Soon after passing Oswestry, they took the opportunity of launching that spiritual thunderbolt which, powerful as it may have been for good where rightly directed, we find so often and so grossly abused. "We excommunicated Owen de Cyfeiliog," writes Giraldus, "because he alone amongst the Welsh princes did not come to meet the Archbishop with his people." So it was not for any act of wickedness unworthy of a Christian man, nor for any deed of injustice or cruelty as a neighbour, nor even for any rebellion against the state, that this extreme measure was adopted towards him; for he was acknowledged by Giraldus himself to have been a man preeminently distinguished for "justice, wisdom, and moderation"; but because he would not pay court to a prelate whose proceedings were very distasteful to him as one jealous for the ecclesiastical independence of his country. It was the same feeling of aversion to the policy by which his country was being swallowed up politically, that prompted the symbolic act which is recorded of him at a banquet given by Henry II at Shrewsbury. The king having sent him one of his own loaves as a mark of special honour, Owen broke it into small pieces, like bread given away in charity; and then having, like an almoner, put them at a distance from him, he took them up and ate them one by one; following therein, as he declared, the example of his Lord.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Giraldus and Powysland Club; *Princes of Upper Powys*, 10.



That Owen was justified in his opposition to Baldwin is painfully evident from the petition of the Welsh princes presented a few years later, A.D. 1203, by Giraldus to the Pope (Innocent III). Referring more directly to St. David's and Llandaff, they complained in language soon applicable to the other sees, that ever since the Welsh Church had been forcibly subjected to the crown and Church of England, English bishops had been thrust upon them totally ignorant of the character and language of their people, and quite unable either to preach or hear their confessions save through an interpreter: men who, looking more to their own temporal profit than to the people's spiritual welfare, despoiled and weakened the Church by the gift, sale, and alienation of its property, which they transferred to England, where the king gave them abbeys and lands, from whence they excommunicated the Welsh at his bidding. And more especially was this the case during the time of war, for whenever the English attacked Wales, they laid the country forthwith under an interdict; and whenever the Welsh rose in defence of their land and liberty, they were put individually and nationally under the bann of the Church; so that every Welshman that fell in battle, fell of necessity under a malediction.<sup>1</sup>

Reiner, who was Bishop of St. Asaph at the time of Archbishop Baldwin's visitation, lived for the most part near Oswestry, at which place he founded a hospital dedicated to St. John, and bestowed it on the Knights Hospitallers of Halston, but with a reservation of its spiritual oversight to the canons of Haughmond.<sup>2</sup> He was also the first of a succession of bishops who, being themselves members of religious orders, are chiefly notable for the appropriations they made. Besides confirming Fitz Alan's grant of the *advowson* of Oswestry and its chapel, St. Martin's, to Shrewsbury Abbey, Reiner conceded to it also the tithes which had previously belonged to the *portionarii* or prebendaries of the church. He also appropriated to Valle Crucis half the tithes of Wrexham, to which his successor, Abraham, added the remainder. Hugh, the next bishop, conferred on the same house the tithes

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<sup>1</sup> *Councils and Eccles. Doc.*, i, 431.

<sup>2</sup> *Eyton's Shropshire*, vol. x.



of Llangollen, with its *capellæ* of Rhuabon, Y Waun (Chirk), Llan-saintffraid (Glyn Ceiriog), and Llandegla; and granted those of Llanfair Caereinion to the nuns of Llanllugan. Howel assigned Llanasa to the sustentation of the fabric of the cathedral. Anian I appropriated to the same nuns the tithes of Llanllwchaiarn, and bestowed those of Berriew on the monks of Pool (Strata Marcella). Another Anian (II) added to Valle Crucis two-thirds of the tithes of Bryneglwys, and gave Rhuddlan and Llansilin towards the augmentation of the stipend of his canons.

But this Anian (II) is best known for his bold assertion of the rights of the Church, and for his resolute maintenance of the privileges of his see. Belonging to the order of Dominicans ("y brawd du o Nannau"), he had been confessor to Edward in the Holy Land; and bringing to bear upon his episcopal office the zeal of a Crusader, he earned the title assigned to him by an early writer,<sup>1</sup> of being "longe fortissimus privilegiorum sedis suæ vindex et assertor." Consecrated A.D. 1268, he obtained the following year, from Llewelyn ap Gruffydd, prince of Wales, a confirmation of the privileges of the see;<sup>2</sup> but as he assumed therein a right to much that the prince denied, there followed a long and painful controversy, ending in appeals to the Archbishop and the Pope. The prince, indeed, at the outset expressed his readiness to abide by the verdict of twelve honest men; but the proposition does not appear to have been accepted; for at an Inquisition held in the cathedral in A.D. 1276, sundry articles of complaint against him were drawn up to be presented to the Archbishop.<sup>3</sup> The complaints specified such points as "the denial to the Bishop of the right to make a will, and the cession of his goods to the crown, which seems to have been intended as a counterpoise to the privileges enjoyed by him of taking the goods of all persons dying intestate within his diocese; the injury done to episcopal manors during the vacancy of the see, by the prince's officers in charge; refusal to allow the canons to elect into the vacancy without the prince's license as to the time; the holding of courts by the prince's bailiffs, on Sundays and festivals, in the church-

<sup>1</sup> In *Annales Linguae Wallicæ*.

<sup>2</sup> *Llyfr Cêch*, 66b, p. 29; 67a, p. 30.

<sup>3</sup> *Llyfr Cêch*, 98, 99a, p. 39, and *Councils and Eccles. Doc.*, i, 511-516.

yard, and even in the church ; and their refusal to allow to the bishop and chapter their proper share of the fines ; that vassals of the Church, if they transferred their allegiance to the English, were deprived of their property, and no respect paid to the plea that it was a feoff of the Church ; that the prince had demanded certain 'procurations' from religious houses, and that his officers had maltreated those who opposed the exaction ; that he had denied the parochial clergy a share in the commons, pastures, woods, etc. ; and that in the case of Llanrwst, he had defrauded the church of property, for which he allowed only an inadequate payment." There is an acknowledgment, indeed, that he had abated somewhat of these practices ; but as he did it 'of grace and not of right,' the question was carried before the Archbishop. The Cistercians, indeed, with the exception of the abbot of Basingwerk, who took an active part in promoting the case, sided with Llewelyn, and sent to the Pope (Gregory X) a circular letter<sup>1</sup> signed by the abbots of Alba Domus, Strata Florida, Cwmhir, Strata Marcella, Aberconway, Cymmer, and Valle Crucis, in which they not only denied the truth of the charges advanced against him by the Bishop, but positively affirmed "that he had, on the contrary, always proved a steady friend and patron not only of their own, but of every religious order, and a steadfast guardian of the Church in Wales."

The issue, however, could not be doubtful. Excommunication was a powerful weapon, and freely handled ; and under the pressure, or anticipation thereof, Llewelyn conceded the points in dispute.

Bishop Anian, in A.D. 1271, obtained from John Fitz Alan, lord of the manor of Oswestry, certain lands in "Martin's Church" on condition that he should pay annually, by way of acknowledgment for them, a pair of gilt spurs. They appear to have belonged previously to the Abbot and Convent of Shrewsbury, but to have been taken from them by Fitz Alan, who was a violent opponent of theirs, and given to the Bishop for his conduct in instituting one Walter de Engmere, a presentee of Fitz Alan's, to the mother church of Oswestry, the advowson of which had been

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<sup>1</sup> *Llyfr Cŏch*, 49b, 27 p.

hitherto enjoyed by the Abbey, but was now claimed by the said Fitz Alan. By a compromise effected A.D. 1272, the Abbey recovered its rights in Oswestry, but gave up to the Bishop the lands at St. Martin's; to which, a few years later, Richard Fitz Alan, the son of John, added forty-four acres, the site of the manor and the house thereto belonging.<sup>1</sup> In 1278 Anian further obtained from Gruffydd Vychan, son of Gruffydd ap Madoc, lord of Iâl, a grant of the manor of Llandegla for his see in perpetuity.<sup>2</sup>

The temporalities of his see were not, however, the only, nor by any means the main, object of Bishop Anian's care. About the year 1273 there commenced between him and the abbot of Valle Crucis an important controversy relative to the patronage of those churches the great tithes of which had been granted by his predecessors to that foundation.<sup>3</sup> The abbot held that, having become canonically possessed, from early times, of the church of Llangollen, with its *capellæ* of Wrexham, Ruabon, Y Waun (Chirk), Llansaintffraid, and Llandegla, one vicar in the mother church was sufficient for the whole. The Bishop, on the other hand, insisted upon appointing a vicar in each of the *capellæ* also. From this the abbot appealed to the Pope, whose delegate, the abbot of Talyllechau, or Talley, in Carmarthenshire, gave sentence against the Bishop, condemning him to pay £5, and the vicars £60, by way of restitution to the abbot; and on Anian's appeal to the Archbishop of Canterbury, he excommunicated him. The abbot of Talyllechau is hereupon admonished by the Archbishop to revoke the sentence of excommunication, and the Archdeacon of Anglesea is appointed his substitute in the case. Finally Anian concedes the sequestrated benefices to the abbot and convent at a visitation holden by him at Album Monasterium (Oswestry).

About this same time, or immediately afterwards, Anian became involved in another controversy, with the Bishop of Hereford (Thomas Cantilupe), as to the boundaries of their respective sees. The ground of dispute was the territory called Gorddwr, lying

<sup>1</sup> *Llyfr Cŏch*, 25b, 42b.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 35, and Willis, Appendix viii.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 29, 30a, 69a, 71a, 71b, 72a.



on the eastern bank of the Severn, and embracing portions at least of Buttington and Alberbury (Llanfihangel yng Ghentyn, *i. e.*, St. Michael's in the low lands), the jurisdiction of which Anian claimed for his own see. According to the theory that the diocese of St. Asaph embraced the whole of ancient Powys, this part would necessarily fall within its limits; and it appears from an inquisition held in 1265, before Gruffydd ap Wenynwyn, that many of its vills or townships paid a moiety of their ecclesiastical dues to the mother church of Meifod.<sup>1</sup> The Bishop of Hereford appealed against Anian to the Pope, who appointed the Bishop of London arbitrator in the case. Before it was settled, however, Cantilupe died, and was succeeded by Richard Swinfield, in whose time a jury of Welsh and English decided the question in favour of the Bishop of Hereford; but under a protest from Anian against their decision being converted into a precedent that might be prejudicial to his see in any future trial of the cause. The true and ancient boundary of the dioceses was now determined to be the *filum*, or mid-stream, of the Severn, from the ford called Rhydwymma,<sup>2</sup> where the river divided the lands of Sir Reginald de Montgomery from those of Peter Corbet, to the ford of Shrawarden. The day after this award was made, Swinfield came to Chirbury; and on the 25th, St. Catherine's Day, he entered on horseback the ford of Rhydwymma, to the middle of the river, and thus took possession of all places and vills within the bank assigned to him, with all the episcopal offices pertaining thereto. The clergy of the different parishes thereupon tendered their obedience; and on the 27th Nov. 1288, the principal chaplain of Hawyse, Lady of La Pole, attended in the choir of the conventual church of Alberbury, and for himself and the other chaplains celebrating at Botynton swore canonical obedience to the Bishop of Hereford.<sup>3</sup>

Another of his disputes was with Isabella de Mortimer, widow of John Fitz Alan, and related to the patronage of Llanymynach.<sup>4</sup> In the feodary of 1272, John Fitz Alan, lately deceased,

<sup>1</sup> *Llyfr C6ch*, 48b, p. 27.

<sup>2</sup> Marked on the Ordnance Map as *Rhyd Whimman*, near Montgomery.

<sup>3</sup> Swinfield's "Household Roll," pp. 76-79, quoted in Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*, vols. vii and xii.

<sup>4</sup> *Llyfr C6ch*, 58a, b.



was the reputed patron of the church; its value, ten marks yearly; and the advowson of it assigned to his widow, the above-named Isabella. Anian, however (having regard probably, as was his wont, to the earlier foundation, which had been superseded by the later custom of the Marchers), deeming the advowson to belong to his see, contested the same with Isabella de Mortimer; and though a suit in the Curia Regis was decided against him, he appealed to the Pope, and refused to institute Isabella's presentee. King Edward I, in a writ of 1281-2, met the Bishop's refusal by an order on the sheriff of Shropshire to distrain upon his goods.<sup>1</sup> Anian was, it would appear, obliged now to give way; for in the *Taxatio* of 1291 it was returned as both a rectory and a vicarage; and in 1305 the Bishop having obtained the former from the rector, let it to the vicar to farm. In 1282, moreover, the same year that the above writ was issued in the case of Llanymynach, the King, as guardian of John Fitz Alan's heir, presented one William, son of Nicholas Zouch, to the vacant church of Blodwas, Llanyblodwel. Richard Fitz Alan, the son and heir of the above John, made, as we have already seen, a very liberal grant of land in St. Martin's to the Bishop a few years afterwards.

But there were other troubles, not of his own seeking, fast gathering round the energetic Bishop. The enormities committed by the English soldiers called from Anian a threat of excommunication, and from the Archbishop (Kilwardby) a letter of urgent remonstrance addressed to the Earl of Warwick, their commander. They are charged with desecrating churches and churchyards, damaging church property, burning one of the Bishop's houses, and slaying some of his servants, as well as other acts of sacrilege,—some of the very crimes alleged by Llewelyn in his dignified reply to Archbishop Peckham, A.D. 1282, as having forced him and his people to take up arms in self-defence, and therefore requiring to be considered and redressed before the threat "*militiam ampliozem convocare, vel contra nos moveri sacerdotium,*" was put into execution."<sup>3</sup> Indeed, Anian is hereupon

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<sup>1</sup> Eyton's *Shropshire*, x, 353.

<sup>2</sup> *Llyfr Cŏch*, 32.

<sup>3</sup> *Councils*, i, 542.

calumniated to the King as favouring the Welsh cause; and, being forced to flee from his post, is reduced to the greatest straits. In a plaintive letter addressed about this time to the Provincial of his Order, he records his melancholy plight: "*Nos-tram naviculam more fluctuantis pelagi undis tegentibus tempestatum, et ventis persecutionum invalescentibus agitatam,*"<sup>1</sup> etc., and earnestly implores the brethren's prayers in his behalf. Matters grew still worse when a little while afterwards the English soldiers, in a sally from Rhuddlan, sacked St. Asaph and burnt the cathedral, A.D. 1282. Anian tried hard to induce the Archbishop to support him in putting them under excommunication; but Peckham found reasons for avoiding the awkward dilemma, and warned Anian not to be too hasty in the matter. The men pleaded that it was an accident, and had occurred in lawful warfare, during an act of retaliation for injuries previously received; and had it been intentional, it was urged that they would not have been admitted to the Sacraments by the Friars Preachers, as they had been after it. Moreover, it would have been much more consistent in Anian, the Archbishop adds, to have remained firmly at his post, to teach his simple people their duty, and guide them through their troubles.<sup>2</sup> During his absence Robert Burnell, Bishop of Bath and Wells, was put in charge of the diocese. The following year, however, the Archbishop shews more consideration; and purposing to hold an official visitation, he applies to the King for permission for Anian to attend him at St. Asaph, and soon afterwards interposes his good offices to work a reconciliation between them. It was some time, however, before this was effected. Edward had long been anxious for the removal of the episcopal see from St. Asaph to Rhuddlan, and with this view had written a letter to the Pope offering a site and a liberal sum of money.<sup>3</sup> The Bishop and canons were also favourable to the design, both from the greater security of the latter place, with its newly rebuilt castle, its larger population, and other advantages;<sup>4</sup> but the design came to nothing, owing either to the death of the Pope, as Godwin supposes, or to the jealousy

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<sup>1</sup> *Llyfr Cêch*, 33.

<sup>2</sup> Browne Willis, *Append.* xii.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, xxi.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, xx.

of the Archbishop, who, however ready to subject the Welsh Church to that of Canterbury, was little inclined to subject Canterbury to the dictation of the crown; and feared, justly enough, that in case of a conflict between the Church and the State, the independence of the former would be weakened if the new cathedral were built under the shadow of the royal castle; for we find the Archbishop, A.D. 1284, issuing his letters of recommendation to the bishops of the Welsh and border dioceses,<sup>1</sup> commending to their favour and hospitality certain clergy of St. Asaph who were about to travel through the country with the famous copy of the Gospels belonging to their cathedral, for the purpose of procuring subscriptions for its rebuilding. Edward, too, had carried out another transfer during this interval. He had removed the Abbey of Aberconway to Maenan, and his reconciliation with Anian was now sealed by an act of mutual courtesy brought about through the mediation of Peckham. Anian granted for its better endowment the advowson of "Eglwys-y-Vach"; and Edward, in requital, conceded to the Bishop that of Rhuddlan.<sup>2</sup>

The crisis had, meanwhile, come upon the Welsh Church and State. Edward had summoned together all his power to crush the Welsh once for all, and Llewelyn had been laid under excommunication throughout the provinces of Canterbury and York. From this miserable state there was little chance of deliverance except on the condition of total submission. Even an appeal to Rome, which in earlier times had often proved a protection to the weak against the strong, would have been of little avail now against the power of England and the interests of Canterbury, for "*Regnum Anglie*," writes Archbishop Peckham to Llewelyn, "*est sub speciali protectione sedis apostolice, et Romana curia plus inter regna cetera diligere consuevit.*" And again: "*Eadem curia nullo modo volet permittere statum regni Anglie vacillare, quod sibi specialibus obsequiis est devotum.*" And that Llewelyn had no expectation of justice or redress, either for himself or his people, is evident from the firm and dignified reply he sent to the Archbishop thanking him for his well intended offers of mediation, but reminding him of the unredressed injuries which

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<sup>1</sup> Browne Willis, Appendix xxii.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., xix.



his countrymen had first inflicted upon the Welsh: "Et licet regnum Anglie sit curie Romane specialiter subjectum et dilectum, tamen cum dominus Papa necnon et curia Romana audierint, quanta nobis per Anglicos mala sunt illata,—videlicet, quod pax prius formata non fuit nobis servata nec pacta; deinde, ecclesiarum devastationes, combustiones, et ecclesiasticarum personarum interfectiones, sacerdotum videlicet et inclusorum et inclusarum et aliarum religiosarum personarum passim, mulierum et infantium suggerentium ubera et in utero positarum; combustiones etiam hospitalium, et aliarum domorum religiosarum; homicidiorum in cimiteriis, ecclesiis et super altaria et aliorum sacrilegiorum, et flagitiorum auditu etiam horribilium auditui paganorum, sicut expressius eadem in aliis rotulis conscripta vobis transmittimus inspicienda....Anglici hactenus nulli sexui vel etati vel langori pepercerunt; nulli ecclesie vel loco sacro detulerunt qualia vel consimilia Walenses, non fecerunt."<sup>1</sup>

Llewelyn's betrayal and death were followed quickly by the complete conquest of the country; and those of the clergy who had adhered steadfastly to him, and were taken prisoners, were put to death by Edward "inter prædones et malefactores alios." The famous "Statute of Rhuddlan," annexing Wales to England, and introducing the system of English jurisprudence, was passed in A.D. 1283; and the following year, in order to consolidate the union ecclesiastically as well as politically, John Peckham, Archbishop of Canterbury, made an official Visitation of the Welsh dioceses, the first ever held by an English metropolitan. It was begun at Oswestry about the beginning of May, and, as far as this diocese was concerned, finished by the middle of June, for on the 28th of that month he issued from Bangor his celebrated letter of "Consilia, Injunctiones et Ordinationes."

This letter touches upon many points of great importance towards a right estimate of the condition and character of the Church in the diocese both before and at the time; for besides the matters of clerical dress and behaviour already alluded to,<sup>2</sup> it requires all beneficed clergy to observe the canonical hours, and all priests with cure of souls to perform divine service

<sup>1</sup> *Councils*, i, 544.

<sup>2</sup> Pages 18, 20.



("missam ordinariam") reverently each day ; neglect therein to be visited with punishment corporal or pecuniary, as might be deemed most effectual ; and in the latter case, the money to be entirely expended upon the poor of the parish. The Host is to be reserved "in accordance with the recent Statute of Lambeth," and to be carried in a pyx to the sick by the priest, preceded by bell and lighted candle. The *portioners*<sup>1</sup> being so small as to render it impossible for the portionists to reside, or for the vicars to sustain the parochial burthens, and being therefore deemed an obstacle to the proper performance of public worship and the offices of the Church, as well as to the teaching of the young in grammar, and the instruction of the laity in faith and morals, are to be abolished, or rather united ; and wherever the rectors do not reside continually in person, vicars are to be provided with such a competent share of the tithes as to enable them to fulfil the requirements of the parish, of hospitality, and of divine worship on a worthy scale ("condigna ministrorum assistentia"). The ancient customs of tithing dowers and of mortuaries are to be continued. Rural deans are to receive "procurations" from rectors and vicars, except under certain circumstances. The bishop's official is not to demand procurations in the same year as the bishop, nor the archdeacon's official in the same year as the archdeacon. The cathedral being intended as an exemplar for the whole diocese, is to have daily service conducted "tam in missa quam in horis canonicis," with suitable dignity. The dean's and canons' houses are to be built as nearly as possible to it ; and when the latter walk in the cloisters or the cathedral, they are to wear their hoods and amices ("capas et almutia"). They are enjoined to solicit from the king the continuance of the ancient liberties of their church, in behalf of which Peckham himself writes to Edward a few days after this. At the same time they are adjured in the most solemn manner to bring their people into union with England, by inducing them to lay aside all rancour, and to resign the hope of ever regaining their ancient power ; for he adds with characteristic candour, that even should the king and nobles of England fail of completing their subjugation, there

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<sup>1</sup> P. 14.

were other kings and other nobles that would take up the task ; and if these, too, should fail, then the Church of Rome would summon a new crusade to make the result sure. Two national characteristics likely to retard this process are to be summarily repressed : one, the giving heed to dreams and auguries and old traditions of Troy, and the ancient grandeur of their race ; the other, the want of definite active employment by which to earn their daily bread,—a need they could hardly have felt before, when charity to the poor was the rule, and no beggar was found throughout the country. Lastly, bewailing the sad ignorance of the priests and clergy, he exhorts them to give more heed to the Friars Preachers and Minors, who were almost the sole repositories of true doctrine in these parts, and yet received but little welcome or support on their missions through the country. These injunctions were to be published annually throughout the diocese, and certification thereof to be made to the archbishop. It is to this period most probably that the prohibition of the ordination of Welshmen to any but the lowest order is due. “Nul-lus Wallensis aliquem filium suum ad aliquos ordines promovebit nisi unum ; et hos ad primam tonsuram tantum.”<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Record, North Wall, in *Book of Carnarvon*, p. 131, from Harl. MS. 696, in *Councils*, i, 583.

## CHAPTER V.

## AFTER THE ANNEXATION.

Early assumption of royal prerogative.—Transfer of the advowson of the Cathedral.—Disregard of its ancient liberties.—Pope Nicholas's *Taxatio*.—Edward I exacts further supplies from the Clergy.—Dispute thereupon.—Excommunication of Prince Madoc.—Bishop Llewelyn ap Ynyr's Statutes.—Controversies relating to the goods of intestates, the advowson of Northop and certain *auxilia*.—Bishop David ap Bleddyn's episcopate.—Llyfr Côch.—Papal provision.—Dispute as to custody of the temporalities and appointment to the deanery.—Bishop Llewelyn ap Madoc.—Bishop Spridlington.—Dispute about the advowson of Llanasa.—The spiritualities of the see in A.D. 1389.

THE annexation, sealed by the Statute of Rhuddlan, had been partially anticipated in ecclesiastical matters at a much earlier period. From the consecration of Gilbert by the Archbishop of Canterbury, in A.D. 1143, the profession of obedience made by his successors bound them, to a certain extent, to regard the English Primate as their ecclesiastical head. Politically, too, the situation of St. Asaph on the confines of the most hotly contested portion of the border-land, its proximity to the garrison fortress of Rhuddlan, and its site on the line of march of the English armies, all combined to place the occupant of the see too often at the mercy of the English king.

In the middle of the thirteenth century this part of the diocese was reduced to a state of great misery. The whole of Perfeddwlad, from the Dee to the Conway, was surrendered to Henry III in A.D. 1247; and the Bishop, Howel ap Ednyfed, like his brother of Bangor, "*destructis episcopatibus cæde et incendio, mendicare ut de alieno viverent cogebantur*"; the former at Osney Abbey, near Oxford, and the latter at St. Alban's.<sup>1</sup> Henry now claimed,

<sup>1</sup> Matt. Paris in *Councils*, p. 474, and Br. Willis, i, 13, 14.

by right of conquest, the advowsons which had previously belonged to the princes of Wales; presented, by virtue thereof, one Henricus de Bretun to the church of St. Michael at Kerry; and in the election of the next bishop to this see, A.D. 1249, assumed the same prerogative that he had previously enjoyed in England, that of requiring the dean and chapter to recognise (which they did under protest) the right of the English crown to license, and to consent to the election.<sup>1</sup> On the death of Simon de Montfort, A.D. 1265, the earldom of Chester was annexed to the crown of England; and in after reigns the eldest son of the reigning monarch received, as Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, "the advowson of the cathedral church of St. Asaph, and the avoidance, issues, and profits, of the temporalities of the bishoprics of Chester and St. Asaph, together with all advowsons, pensions, portions, corrodiess, offices, etc., to the said earldom belonging."<sup>2</sup> To the total disregard here shewn for the ancient rights and liberties of the see on one hand, and of certain customs and privileges of the border chieftains on another; and to the uncertainty that so often resulted as to their relative rights and those of the crown, are to be attributed the endless disputes about advowsons and temporalities that henceforth, for a long period, marked each interval of vacancy in the see. The first of them occurred on the death of Anian II in A.D. 1293, when Earl Warren, lord of Bromesfeld, claimed the custody of certain "terre et tenementa" within his lordship, just as it had been enjoyed by his predecessors therein before the conquest of the country. But it was ruled by the King in council that the custody of all lands, etc., anywhere situate, belonging to vacant sees, belonged to the crown; and that he had, by his recent conquest, re-acquired the lands of Bromesfeld, and annexed them to his crown: "Adeo integre et plenarie cum omnibus suis juribus et libertatibus, sicut terre et tenementa illa corone Anglie annexa fuerunt antequam in manus principum Wallie devenerunt";<sup>3</sup> in manifest allusion to the above grant.

It was probably a like uncertainty that deterred Robert de

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, *Append.* v; *Councils*, 475.

<sup>2</sup> "Flintshire" in Lewis's *Topographical Dict.*

<sup>3</sup> Ryley, *Placita*, 21 Edw. I, pp. 119, 120, in *Councils*, i, 598, 599.



Staundon, justiciary of North Wales, on the same occasion, from taking possession of the temporalities of the see within the lordship of Denbigh and elsewhere, and which called forth from the King a strict mandate that he should proceed to do so at once.<sup>1</sup>

The ancient liberties of the Welsh Church were roughly handled at the annexation, and treated too much as it happened to suit the convenience, advantage, or caprice of the subordinates to whom the government of the country was committed. "Idecirco scribimus regie Maiestati," writes Archbishop Peckham to Edward I, A.D. 1284, "quia tam domini novelli, quam baiuli, quibus gubernacula Wallie commisistis, prudentes carnaliter, et spiritualiter imprudentes, sic premissam dividunt libertatem, ut quicquid pro ipsorum videtur esse commodo contra consuetudinem Anglicanam, illud sibi arrogent toto posse; quicquid vero ad relevationem ecclesie discrepat ab usibus Anglicanis, illud destruunt et evertunt, non sine animarum suarum periculis et anathematis vinculo quo ipso facto irretiunt semetipsos." And he closes his appeal for the preservation of those liberties with a warning,—“Tantum igitur dignetur in hac parte facere pietas regalis, ne sui honoris incrementa, que Deus adaugeat, in ecclesiastica suspiria convertantur; pro certo scitura, quantum amaritatus clerus posset faciliter processu temporis populum (quod avertat Altissimus) in amaritudinem concitare.”<sup>2</sup> The appeal and warning, however, appear to have been of little avail, for in the thirteenth of the Articles of the Bishops against Edward I, presented in the following year, it is urged by them, “quod Ecclesiæ Walliæ suæ libertati pristinæ dimittantur”; to which it is replied, “Rex intelligit quod sunt plus liberæ quam fuerint ab initio,”—a reply that calls forth the regretful comment, “Utinam ita esset, ut responsum est; sed prælati earum partium aliud asseverant.”<sup>3</sup>

The information supplied by Peckham's famous letter, A.D. 1284, as to the condition, character, and duties of the clergy, is aptly supplemented by an important record of almost the same date, describing the nature and value of all the livings and other

<sup>1</sup> Prynne, *Records*, iii, 571, in *Councils*, i, 601.

<sup>2</sup> *Reg. Peckh*, fo. 446, in *Councils*, i, 569.

<sup>3</sup> *Councils*, i, 583.

ecclesiastical property within the diocese. It is entitled “*Annullis Valor omnium et singularum Possessionum et Reventionum, tam Spiritualium quam Temporalium, omnium et singulorum Archiepiscoporum et Episcoporum, Abbatum et Priorum*; anno 18 Edw. I” (commonly called the “Taxation of Pope Nicholas IV”), and was published from the original MS. by the Record Commission, in 1802, under the title, “*Taxatio Ecclesiastica Angliæ et Walliæ, auctoritate P. Nicholai IV, c. A.D. 1291*”; the portion relating to this diocese being given pp. 285-290. From the preface we learn that “Pope Innocent XXII, to whose predecessors in the see of Rome the first fruits and tenths of all ecclesiastical benefices had for a long time been paid, gave the same, A.D. 1253, to King Henry III for three years; which occasioned a taxation in the following year, sometimes called the “Norwich Taxation,” and sometimes “Pope Innocent’s Valor.” This is inferred, from the contents of *Llyfr Côch*, to have included this diocese; but no further particulars remain. “In the year 1288 Pope Nicholas IV granted the tenths to King Edward I for six years, towards defraying the expense of an expedition to the Holy Land;<sup>1</sup> and that they might be collected to their full value, a taxation by the King’s precept was begun in that year, and finished as to the province of Canterbury in 1291, and as to that of York in the following year; the whole being under the direction of John Bishop of Winton and Oliver Bishop of Lincoln. This *Taxatio* is a most important record, because all the taxes, as well to our kings as the popes, were regulated by it until the survey made in the twenty-sixth year of Henry VIII; and because the statutes of the colleges which were founded before the Reformation are also interpreted by this criterion; according to which their benefices, under a certain value, are exempted from the restriction in the statute 21 Henry VIII concerning pluralities.” As the details of the chapter, parochial, and monastic incomes will be given when treating of each of them severally, where the juxtaposition of this *Valor* to others of later date will supply mate-

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<sup>1</sup> A new feature, resulting from the Crusades, is henceforth not infrequently met with in the diocesan records, viz. the introduction of leprosy into the country: e. g., “duodecim leprosarii” receive clothing from Bishop Llewelyn, A.D. 1311, and there was a “terra leprosorum” at Wrexham.

rials for useful comparisons, it will suffice here to give the respective summaries. The orthography is curious from an anti-quarian point of view; and by the confusion of *f* and the long *f*, and of *n* and *v*, bespeaks a scribe not well acquainted with the origin and meaning of some of the names.

## SPIRITUALIA.

*Decanatus**Ecclesie de*

T. S'ma taxacio's. D. S'ma decime.

*Marchia* . . . . . Oswal,<sup>1</sup> Sco. Martino, .....<sup>2</sup> Hilatwon,<sup>3</sup> Lanemeneyth,

T. £85 : 0 : 0 . . . . .<sup>4</sup> Knwkyn, .....<sup>5</sup>

D. £7 : 4 : 8

*Pola* . . . . . Pola, Beygidia,<sup>6</sup> Landrimeaw Landislylian.<sup>7</sup>

T. £36 : 13 : 4. D. £3 : 13 : 4.

*Kedeweyn* . . . . . Aberyw, Bethus, Manaon, Lanwydean, Trefkeno,

T. £61 : 13 : 11 . . . . . Lanwoyr,<sup>8</sup> Lanlwchacarn, Lamewily, Landissul,

D. £4 : 6 : 0 . . . . . Haberhafefest.

*Kereynon* . . . . . Lanveyr, Castell', Langenvyk, Lanurvyll, Langadvan.

T. £40 : 13 : 4 . . . . . S'ma tax' Decan' p'd'ci post subt' com' Rector'

D. £3 : 8 : 0 . . . . . de Lanweyr, £22 : 0 : 0; inde dec' £2 : 4 : 0.

*Metheyn* . . . . . Meynot, Lansanfreit, Lannetheyn, Lanvylllyn, Lan-

T. £46 : 8 : 4<sup>9</sup> . . . . . nyhagel.

D. £4 : 4 : 10

*Mochnant* . . . . . Rauraeadr<sup>11</sup> (cum capellis suis, sc. Wangedwyn, Lan-

T. £37 : 13 : 4<sup>10</sup> . . . . . armavn, Bettws Kadwalardyr), Penant Mellagel,

D. £2 : 17 : 0 . . . . . Hyrnant, Langenauk.

*Kenlleyth* . . . . . Lansylyn, Lanarnaiaor in Diffryn Keyrianc.

£24 : 13 : 4. £1 : 18 : 8

*Mahelaur* . . . . . Eston, Grefford, Gwregsam, Marthwyel, Rywnabon,

£97 : 13 : 4 . . . . . Erbystok.

*Nandhendwe*<sup>12</sup> . . . . . Langollen, Ewevn,<sup>13</sup> Lansanfreit.

£47 : 16 : 8

*Edermyawn* . . . . . Corvaen, Lansanffreyd, Gwydelwern, Langar, Lan-

£56 : 6 : 8 . . . . . derillo, Lanhehacarn.<sup>14</sup>

*Dymnael* . . . . . Langvm, Lanvihagel, Kerrye Edrudeon Bettus guer-

£15 : 0 : 0 . . . . . vyl.

*Penllyn* . . . . . Landervael, Lanvaur, Lanekyl, Lanuthllyn, Lan-

£44 : 16 : 8 . . . . . gewoyr.

£3 : 14 : 4

*Manowe & Kefeyllyanc.* Lanemadwe (cum capellis suis de Malewyt et Garth-

£50 : 0 : 0 . . . . . beybyan), Dareweyn, Capella de Brynmeyr,

Kemeys, Lanwryn, Capella de Penegos, Capella

de Machyleyth.

<sup>1</sup> Oswaltra.

<sup>2</sup> Chwyntunton.

<sup>3</sup> Sulatwn.

<sup>4</sup> Blodnol.

<sup>5</sup> (R. O.) Kynardynllef.

<sup>6</sup> (R. O.) Keygidia.

<sup>7</sup> Landiscy.

<sup>8</sup> Newtown, originally called Llanfair yn Ghedewen.

<sup>9</sup> £42 : 8 : 4.

<sup>10</sup> £28 : 10 : 0.

<sup>11</sup> Llanrhaiadr.

<sup>12</sup> Nanheudwy

<sup>13</sup> Y Waun, i.e. Chirk.

<sup>14</sup> Llanaelhaearn, united to Gwyddelwern in the sixteenth century.

<i>Ros &amp; Revoveauc</i> <sup>1</sup> £152:10:5	. Lanwryst, Eglewys Ewach, Dyserth, Egluwys Ros, Dynernth, <sup>2</sup> Bodwellennyn, <sup>3</sup> Lisnaen, Landwlas, Bettws, Abergelen (cum capella sua, Langustennyn), Kegydan, <sup>4</sup> Landwarchell, <sup>5</sup> Nanclyn, Helan, Laundid, Lansaman, Gwytheryn, Langernyw, Doligenwal, <sup>6</sup> Lanveyrdalhaern.
<i>Yall &amp; Stratalwen</i> £78:5:0	. Lanverreys, Lanarmavn, Landegla, Landesylan, Bryn Eglwys, de Monte Alto (cum capella sua de Nerghwys). S'ma taxationis p'd'ci Decanat' post moderac'o'em Eccl'ie de Monte alto, £70:15:0; inde dec. £7:1:2.
<i>Englefeld</i> . . . £158:11:8	. Lanewrgayn <sup>7</sup> (cu' capella sua de Flynd), Heliwa, Heleng, Chwytford, Lanafsaph, Aldmeliden, Dymneyrchyvan, Deyserch (cu' capella de Rywlyfuyd), Ewin, <sup>8</sup> Baerwys, Bottervarrn, Skeynyanc, Nanverch Kylleyn, Rodlan.
<i>Ecclesia Cathedralis cu' capellis suis et canonie in ead'm et portiones alie</i> £287:10:0	omnes (including those of the bishop, dean, and archdeacon).

Summa taxacionis omnium bonorum spiritualium Assavensis diocesis, £1332:18:9; inde decime, £133:5:10½.

## TEMPORALIA.

	£	s.	d.	Dec.
S'ma bonorum D'ni Assavens' Ep'i <sup>9</sup>	22	2	10	2 4 3¼
„ „ Canonicorum Assavens	11	2	1	1 2 2¾
„ „ Abbath. de Basyngberde <sup>10</sup>	46	11	0	4 13 1½
„ „ „ Conway	26	2	4	2 12 3
„ „ „ Strata Marcelle	18	10	10	1 17 1¼
„ „ „ Valle Crucis	14	14	8	1 9 6
„ „ „ Lanlutan	1	9	0	0 2 11
„ „ „ Strata Florida, Menev. dioc.	2	9	0	0 4 11
„ „ „ Harmon, <sup>11</sup> Cestrie dioc.	8	0	4	0 16 0¾
„ „ D'ni Ep'i Bangorens'	3	7	6	0 6 9
„ „ Canonicor' Eccl'ie Bangorens'	3	7	6	0 6 9
S'ma s'mar' om'iu' bonor' temporal'	157	17	1	15 15 8½

Summa totorum bonorum spiritualium et temporalium Assavens' dioc' . . . . . 1490 15 10 149 1 7

<sup>1</sup> Rhyfoniog. <sup>2</sup> Llandrillo-yn-Rhos. <sup>3</sup> Llanellian. <sup>4</sup> St George.

<sup>5</sup> Whitechurch, Denbigh. <sup>6</sup> Yspytty. <sup>7</sup> Northop. <sup>8</sup> Cwm.

<sup>9</sup> Issuing from the manors of St. Asaph with Altmoledyn and Dymcolyn (in Disserth), of Llandegla, and of St. Martin and St. Leonard's; also from Botnoc, Llanrusty, Bremman, Bodgenen (Bodengan), Cocryadok Meyradok (Meriadog), Warymel, Wayno (Vaenol), Insula Pengnen, Cansyman (Llansannan), Langner (Llangernyw), Trathlan (Trellan in Llansantffraid Glanconwy), Renant (in Conway par.), Henlau, Bodingenau, Lanhudith, Kyllawen, Bregnen (Bryngwyn in Temeirchion), Tardys (Caerwys), Nantvenen.

<sup>10</sup> Basyngberke (Basingwerk).

<sup>11</sup> Haughmond, near Shrewsbury.



The discrepancy in the proportion of the taxation and the tenths in some of the deaneries, is due to the circumstance that vicars, resident rectors, and portionists, whose income did not exceed six mercs, or four pounds, were exempt from tenths. The sum of the taxation, too, is not to be taken as representing the complete valor of the respective deaneries, inasmuch as the appropriate livings were taxed, not with the deaneries in which they were situate, but under the cathedral or other religious foundation to which they were attached; whilst those which were appropriate to the Knights Hospitallers of Jerusalem, as being devoted to a kindred object, were exempted from the measure.<sup>1</sup> The *portiones* ordered by Peckham to be abolished are well illustrated in the case of Meifod, Corwen, Northop, Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, and other parishes, as will be shewn more fully when treating of them individually. The list of churches is the same as it was at the beginning of the present century, with the exception of Gwaunysgor omitted, and Llanaelhaearn united to Gwyddelwern, the change of some few of the *capellæ* into parish churches, and the addition of some ten or twelve chapels of ease, such as Voelas, Capel Garmon, St. Hilary's (Denbigh), Treyddin, Minera, Trevor, Rhug, Aston, Moreton, Melverley, and Penrhôs.

Edward found this method of procuring supplies, by demanding sums of money from the clergy, so convenient, and adopted it so often, and to such an exorbitant extent, that they were compelled at last to resist the imposition as unconstitutional. The Pope, too, issued a bull forbidding them to pay any levy, tribute, or contribution to the state, and putting under excommunication all who dared either to levy or receive such payment without the papal permission being first obtained.<sup>2</sup> Edward, however, would brook no interference; but seized their goods, and ultimately forced them to acquiesce in his extortions.<sup>3</sup> Llewelyn ap Ynyr, commonly called Leoline de Bromfield, of St. Asaph, and John of Llandaff, are said to have been the only two Bishops

<sup>1</sup> The appropriations to religious houses are given on p. 32. Those belonging to the cathedral included Henllan to the dean, Abergele to the archdeacon, Tremeirchion, Llangernyw, Llanefydd, Llanfairtalhaiarn, Meliden, and St. Asaph (in part) to the canons, and Gwyddelwern to the vicars.

<sup>2</sup> *Llyfr Côch*, fo. 36 b.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. Hallam, *Med. Ages*, ii, 224.

in the province of Canterbury that supported the Archbishop in his resistance to the King in this matter.<sup>1</sup> A list of the defaulters in the diocese, and of the respective sums demanded of them, is preserved in *Llyfr Côch*;<sup>2</sup> from whence it appears that on their refusal to pay the demand, notwithstanding the repeated injunction of the King to the Bishop to enforce it, Edward at last commanded him to put their goods under sequestration, and appear before him in person at Westminster, within a certain date, with the whole amount, on pain of having his own temporalities seized in discharge of the demand. The goods of the Dean and other defaulters were hereupon offered for sale; but owing to the shortness of the notice, the lateness of the season, the badness of the roads, the difficulties of transit, and, above all, the fear of ecclesiastical censures, no buyers could be found. The money, however, had to be paid, as appears from sundry receipts in *Llyfr Côch* to that effect.

To Bishop Llewelyn's lot fell also the unpleasant office of having to put into force the sentence of excommunication pronounced by Archbishop Winchelsey against Prince Madoc ap Llewelyn and his adherents, who had risen against the new taxes levied through Sir Roger de Puleston, whom they seized and put to death. Madoc was to be excommunicated by name, and his adherents *en masse*; and the whole of the country that supported him to be put under an interdict, the baptism of infants and the penances of the dying being alone permitted. The execution of the sentence was, however, not so easy, as neither the Bishop nor his officers dared approach the Prince, or be seen in any of the parts that adhered to him; so that he had to content himself with making a proclamation of it in the presence of the people assembled together, on holy days, in the neighbouring towns of Oswestry, Pool, Wrexham, Mold, and Caerwys.<sup>3</sup> This was in A.D. 1295, and the sentence was again repeated by him A.D. 1305, when Madoc was a prisoner in the Tower of London.

The cathedral having been now rebuilt, after its destruction by the English soldiers, the services were rearranged, in accordance with the injunctions of Peckham, by Bishop Llewelyn. In

<sup>1</sup> Wharton.

<sup>2</sup> 10b, pp. 83-88.

<sup>3</sup> Br. Willis, App. xxiv.

full chapter held on the 6th of March, A.D. 1296, the duties of those members who were beneficed in Gwyddelwern were defined ; and the obligations of the several prebendaries laid down, assigning to each his share in the support of the choir.<sup>1</sup> For their better maintenance Rhuddlan and Llansilin were, on the 11th of the following April, made appropriate ; and on the same day the ancient grant of Llanasa by Bishop Howel was confirmed, for the support of the fabric and the supply of lights in the cathedral.<sup>2</sup>

The statutes of the Bishop and his council, "*tam super regimine suo quam sue familie*," drawn up about this time, are interesting as shewing the composition and domestic arrangements of the episcopal household. The Bishop himself is first enjoined to attend constantly to the divine offices and to the study of the sacred canons and Scriptures ; next, the duties of his council ("*socii sui circa regimen ecclesie*") are enumerated, and principles laid down for their guidance. Then follow the duties of the several members of the household ("*officiales curie*"), *e. g.*, the "*senescallus*" (house-steward), "*janitor seu marescallus aule*," "*pincerna*" (baker), "*panetarius*" (who had to provide and distribute the bread), "*marescallus equorum*" (head groom), "*coquus*," "*elemosynarius*," "*capellanus*," "*camerarius*" (chamberlain), "*hostiarius camere*" (groom of the chambers ?), "*garcionum pallestri*" (in charge of the stable-boys), "*portarius*," "*nuncius*," and those of the land-steward and the "*judex*." In the appointment, A.D. 1304, to certain canonries, to which "*capellæ*" were annexed, it is stipulated that the new canons shall build suitable houses on their glebes, and reside in person therein. Such were Llannefydd, Abergele, and Llanfair-talhaiarn.<sup>3</sup> From whence it appears that the canons had adhered to the original system of collegiate residence near the cathedral, until the destruction of their houses in the late war.

We have already alluded to a dispute relating to the temporalities of the see during the interval before the election of Llewelyn. We will now touch briefly upon one or two others that took place during his episcopate. The first of these related to the goods and chattels of persons dying intestate within the

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, App. xxvi.

<sup>2</sup> *Llyfr Côch*, 137b.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 91, 92.



demesnes of the bishop ; the same point we have already seen disputed between Bishop Anian II and Llewelyn Prince of Wales. One Madoc ap Philip had died intestate in the cantred of Englefield, possessed of goods worth £4, which Bishop Llewelyn took possession of in accordance with the privileges of the see. The King, however, disputed his right, and claimed them for himself, either on the general plea that the goods of all intestates belonged to the crown ; or possibly, in this case, on the particular ground that they were “*ad valentiam iiii librarum*”; a sum we have already seen to have been the limit of certain exemptions in the *Valor* of A.D. 1291. But the jury found for the Bishop, and his title to all such goods was now confirmed.<sup>1</sup>

Another had reference to the advowson of Northop, claimed by Edward II, A.D. 1310, on the plea that it had at one time belonged to David Prince of Wales, and had therefore devolved to himself by virtue of that title. Edward presented to it one of his chaplains, Elias de ..... ; but the Bishop refused to institute him, on the ground that the presentation belonged, and always had done so, to the see. The question was tried by jury at Flint, before Robert de Holland, justiciary of Chester, A.D. 1310 ; and here also the verdict was given in favour of the Bishop.<sup>2</sup>

The following year the Bishop and his chapter were again successful in resisting a contribution of two hundred merces imposed, without their consent, by the Earl of Lancaster, lord of Denbigh, upon their tenants in Isaled, Uwchaled, and Isdulas ; it being one of the immemorial privileges of their Church that no such contribution should be demanded without their previous assent and concurrence.<sup>3</sup>

Llewelyn ap Ynyr was succeeded in A.D. 1314 by David ap Bleddyn, who, like himself, was a canon of the cathedral. On this occasion a curious prerogative of the crown was exercised. Edward nominated one Nicholas de Huyate (Wyatt ?) “*ad obtinendam gratiam uni de clericis ratione novæ consecrationis debitam*”; whereupon the Bishop granted him an annual pension of five merces, until he should be otherwise provided for with an ecclesiastical benefice.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, Append. xxviii.

<sup>2</sup> *Llyfr Côch*, pp. 89, 90.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 37.

<sup>4</sup> Br. Willis, App. xxix.



This Bishop obtained from Edward II, A.D. 1321, for the benefit of himself and chapter, a grant of the tolls taken at the three days' fair annually held at St. Asaph on May 1st and the preceding and following days, being the Festival of St. Philip and St. James and the anniversary or Wake of St. Asaph.<sup>1</sup> He further obtained from Edward III a confirmation of Edward's grant, A.D. 1281, of £20 worth of land, amounting to forty-nine acres, situate in the vills of Disserth, Dincolyn, Nannerch, Coedymynydd, and Rhywlyfnwyd; and made originally "propter incendia et diversa enormia ecclesiæ predictæ per homines ipsius tempore guerræ facta."<sup>2</sup> He also appropriated Nantglyn to the cathedral, for the better maintenance of the ten vicars and the support of its other duties, and for the celebration of two masses daily ("una de Beata Virgine Maria, et alia pro defunctis et benefactoribus") in the newly built chapel on the south side of the cathedral,—the present Consistory Court.<sup>3</sup> It was during the time of Bishop David ap Bleddyn that the famous MS., *Llyfr Côch*, or *Liber Ruber Assavensis*, was compiled, containing the acts of the bishops and the records and charters of the see.<sup>4</sup>

In the appointment of this bishop's successor, John Trevor I, we find a new feature introduced, that became henceforth of frequent occurrence, viz. that of papal provision; that is, the destination of an ecclesiastic by the Pope for promotion to a see, living, or stall, not yet vacant. This practice is said to have arisen out of the custom of referring disputed elections to Rome for settlement; and to have been adopted there for the twofold reason of bestowing the see on a favourite candidate, under pretext of avoiding contests, and of preventing the crown from keeping sees long vacant for the sake of their temporalities. But it soon became perverted into an abuse far greater than any it

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, App. xxx.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, App. xxxi.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, App. xxxii.

<sup>4</sup> The original has long been lost; but there exist two copies of portions of it, the one at Peniarth, Merionethshire, and the other in the Bishop's Library at St. Asaph. An index, taken from the former, has been published in Nichols's *Collectanea Topographica*; and many of its early records printed in *Councils and Ecclesiastical Documents*, 1869. Another index, taken from the latter copy, was printed, with notes, in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* for 1868. This is the copy referred to in the present work as *Llyfr Côch*.

was intended to remedy; and the richly endowed Church of England came to be looked upon as "the free pasture of Italian priests, who were placed by the mandatory letters of Gregory IX and Innocent IV in all the best benefices."<sup>1</sup> The first instance at all in this diocese appears to have been the appointment by Pope Clement V, A.D. 1306, of Dr. John Toppan to a canonry in the cathedral and to the rectory of Llan Wyllin.<sup>2</sup> The next case was that of John Trevor, who, whilst at Rome, was nominated by Clement VI, first in A.D. 1344, to the next vacant canonry or sinecure;<sup>3</sup> and subsequently to the bishopric itself, to which, as soon as it became vacant, he was also consecrated "in curia Romana"; though he was not allowed to take possession of his see until he had first made his profession of obedience at Canterbury.<sup>4</sup>

Upon his death, A.D. 1357, the old dispute was again revived as to the custody of the temporalities during the vacancy. The spiritualities, including the collation to benefices, were always enjoyed by the Archbishop of Canterbury as metropolitan; and so continued until the 32nd of Henry VIII, when they were transferred to the crown. But there were certain other privileges ("jura et prædia"), not distinctly spiritual, which were also enjoyed by him on the death of his suffragans. Such were, a moiety of the "sacerdotia", and a third of the small tithes, of all the vacant benefices; a tenth of the "valor" of all other benefices, payable on All Saints' Day; fourpence out of every merc to defray the expenses of visitation; "decima bonorum dotalium", being a commutation on the "animalia" belonging to persons getting married during the interval; and mortuaries of the deceased bishop, including in this diocese his best horse, saddle and bridle, his hooded cloak, and his best seal and signet ring.<sup>5</sup> These, Edward the Black Prince now claimed, as guardian of the temporalities. The dispute was not finally settled till A.D. 1362; and then, after a long and careful inquiry, it was decided, "omnium pene tam laicorum quam clericorum in illa diocese testimonio";<sup>6</sup> that they belonged "ad Cantuariensem metropolim longa consuetudine acquisita."

<sup>1</sup> Hallam's *Mid. Ages*, ii, 209.

<sup>2</sup> MS. Bull in Wharton, p. 397.

<sup>5</sup> Harpsfield in Br. Willis, Append. II, p. 107.

<sup>3</sup> Rymer, v, p. 403.

<sup>4</sup> Wharton, p. 336.

<sup>6</sup> Wharton, p. 337.

Another dispute had arisen in the interval, on the promotion of Llewelyn ap Madoc, the dean, to the bishopric. Provided to the see by Innocent at Avignon, July 19th, 1357, and about the same time elected thereto by the chapter, in ignorance of the papal reservation, he was consecrated by the Pope at Avignon, and received the spiritualities from the Archbishop on the 13th of October. The question then arose, whether he as bishop, consecrated, but not yet having received his temporalities, or the Prince of Wales, as custos of them until restored, was to present to the vacant deanery. The Archbishop issued a commission, on the 20th of October, to inquire into the matter; and on the commissioners reporting that they could not decide to whom, in this particular instance, the patronage belonged, Edward assumed the right, and nominated to it Robert de Walsham;<sup>1</sup> but it would appear that the matter was compromised by the Bishop appointing another friend of the Prince; for the deanery was conferred in the autumn of the same year, A.D. 1357, upon William de Spridlington, who in due time succeeded Llewelyn ap Madoc in the bishopric also, and was afterwards named by the Black Prince as one of the executors to his will.

Bishop Spridlington obtained from Richard II a confirmation of the grant of the advowson of Blodwell, the original grant by Richard Fitz Alan, Earl of Arundel, to his predecessor, Bishop Llewelyn ap Madoc, having been made "without the royal license," and therefore become forfeit.<sup>2</sup> The same Bishop procured also the appropriation of Llanrhaiadr and its chapelries to the cathedral chapter, A.D. 1380, "*tam ad incrementum sustentationis quatuor vicariorum, et sex aliorum capellanorum quam ad sustentationem sex minorum vicariorum choristarum et ad alia onera in ecclesia predicta invenienda juxta ordinationem ipsius Episcopi et capituli sui in hac parte faciendam.*"<sup>3</sup> The same year he also obtained the royal license to unite and annex the chapelries of Welshpool and Guilsfield ("*capellas de la Pole et Kegotva*") to the mother church of Meifod, and to appropriate them to himself, "*in proprios usus.*" A weekly market on Mondays, and a three days' fair in October ("*in vigilia in die et in*

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, App. xxxiii.<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, App. xxxiv.<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, App. xxxvi.



crastino Sancti Dionysii”), were conceded at the same time to the bishop, dean, and chapter, who were to receive the tolls and other customs,<sup>1</sup> as we have already seen in the similar grant to Bishop David ap Bleddyn in A.D. 1321. The labour-service, too, at the Red Rock, which had been rendered from time immemorial by the free tenants of the dean and chapter (“pro operationibus ecclesiæ cathedralis”), was now commuted into a money-payment,<sup>2</sup> known as “Ardreth y Garreg Gôch.” Bishop Spridlington, after having done so much during his lifetime to improve the condition of the cathedral and its members, left many legacies at his death for the same and other similar purposes.

Before the appointment of his successor, the ever-recurring dispute about patronage again cropped up. This time Llanasa became vacant, and Richard II, assuming the right of advowson, presented to it Hugh Leversegge; and on the Archbishop’s refusal to institute, issued a writ of “*Quare impedit*” to compel him to do so. The verdict, given at Flint, was in the King’s favour; but at the instance of the Earl of Arundel, whose family had often proved great benefactors to the diocese, the King gave up his right, and confirmed the appropriation to its ancient uses, “ad inveniendum luminaria et sustentandum alia onera eidem ecclesiæ (cathedrali) necessaria.”<sup>3</sup>

On the death of Bishop Child, A.D. 1389, the spiritualities of the see were entrusted by the Archbishop to Howel Kyffin, the dean, whose account gives the following items:

	£	s.	d.
“De <i>Lactualibus</i> , viz. de tertia parte agnorum, lanæ et albarum decimarum liberalium . . .	160	0	0
De procurationibus annualibus . . .	50	0	0
De procurationibus triennialibus . . .	50	0	0
De capellis Ecclesiæ Assavensis, sextam partem garbarum quæ valet p’ ann’ . . .	12	0	0
De Ecclesia de Blodwell mensæ suæ appropriatâ . . .	8	0	0
Medietatem oblationum ad magnum altare . . .			
Medietatem beneficiorum vacantium . . .			

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, App. xxxvii.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, App. xxxix.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, App. xli, and see p. 59.



## CHAPTER VI.

## THE PRE-REFORMATION PERIOD.

Bishop Trevor II and Owen Glyndwr.—Bishops Knight and Redman.—Church restoration.—Tendencies to the Reformation.—Mutual jealousies of the Religious Orders; their riches, and proposals to confiscate them.—Translation of the Holy Scriptures.—Printing.—Revival of Greek learning.—Bishops Pecock and Standish.—Transfer of the Supremacy from the Pope to the King.—Declaration of the Dean and Chapter.—Religious literature of the period.—Character of the popular religion.

THE episcopate of John Trevor II brings us to a stirring and eventful period in the history of the diocese. Having been appointed, as was now the custom, by papal provision, the Crown shewed its jealousy of the practice in the condition it attached to the grant of the temporalities, "*quod idem Johannes omnibus verbis nobis et coronæ nostræ prejudicialibus contentis in litteris apostolicis sibi in hac parte confectis renunciaret.*"<sup>1</sup> Whatever this may have done to secure the loyalty, it seems to have effected but little towards winning the affection of the Bishop; for it was he who soon afterwards, in Flint Castle, pronounced the sentence of deposition on Richard, and also went as ambassador to Spain to justify to that court the proceedings of his rival, Henry Bolingbroke. His conduct in this matter aroused the indignation of Owen Glyndwr, who, having been partly brought up at the court of Richard, had adhered faithfully to him to the last, and been taken prisoner with him in the Castle of Flint. On his release he retired to his estate on the banks of the Dee, to brood over his liege's sufferings, and to smart under wrongs of his own. His neighbour, Reginald de Grey, the Norman baron of Ruthin, sided with Henry; and between their two

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<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, Append. XLVI.

estates lay an extensive common, called Croesau, to which both parties laid claim. During the reign of Richard, Glyndwr had recovered it from Reginald de Grey; but now that Henry was king, his neighbour took forcible possession of it, and Glyndwr's appeal to Parliament for redress was rejected.

This was soon aggravated by another injury. De Grey detained the writ that had been issued by Henry summoning Glyndwr and the other barons to join the expedition against the Scots, and then, misrepresenting his absence as an act of wilful disobedience, took possession of his lands on plea of forfeiture. This drove Glyndwr to desperation, and summoning his retainers he retaliated fiercely on his enemy. His successes gained him fresh adherents; and as his countrymen were smarting under a bitter sense of the indignities to which they were subjected, they thought this a favourable opportunity for freeing themselves from the yoke, and chose Glyndwr to be their leader, both for his own merits, and as being descended from their last native prince. Bishop Trevor warned the English Parliament not to make light of the movement; but his counsel was somewhat disdainfully rejected,—they cared not for such barefooted rabble. During the struggle much injury was done by both sides to ecclesiastical buildings and property, according to the sympathies of the respective parties. The Franciscans, being adherents of Richard, and favourable to Glyndwr, were among the first to suffer. Their monastery at Llanfaes was plundered by Henry A.D. 1400; some of the monks put to death, and others expelled, their places being supplied by supporters of the king. Glyndwr retaliated the following year by destroying the Cistercian Abbey of Cwmhir; and Henry, in revenge, burnt down Strata Florida the year after.

The confirmation of the Pope's bull, providing the bishop to Meifod, with its *capellæ* of Pole and Kegitva, "ea consideratione quod Ecclesia Assavensis, occasione guerrarum et tribulationum quæ nuper in partibus illis fuerunt, multipliciter damnificata existit," attests the troubles of the diocese at this time, A.D. 1401; troubles vastly increased the following year, when Glyndwr,

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<sup>1</sup> Rymer, viii, p. 222.

having got rid of his English enemies, proceeded to punish those of his countrymen who had sided with them. Marching to St. Asaph to avenge himself upon the Bishop, he burns down the cathedral, the palace, and the canons' houses, and about the same time destroys the Bishop's houses at Meliden, Bodidris, and St. Martin's. Whether the Bishop had actually returned from his Spanish embassy at this time does not seem clear; but it was not long afterwards that he transferred his allegiance to Glyndwr, either because, as his enemies assert, Glyndwr's fortunes were now in the ascendant; or, as others maintain with more probability, because he would not be a party to the oppressive and impolitic laws which had been passed against his countrymen during his absence, and of which, after his return, he had utterly failed to obtain any mitigation. Trevor, from this time, remained a faithful supporter of Glyndwr until his death, in 1410, at Paris, whither he had been sent as ambassador to obtain the aid of the French king. Henry was greatly incensed at his defection, and forthwith deprived him of his temporalities; as far, that is to say, as it was possible for him, considering that they were actually in Glyndwr's power; who, moreover, had seen fit to confirm them to Trevor. Archbishop Arundel at the same time, assuming the spiritualities, issued a writ to William Memborough, archdeacon of Chester, to certify the names of all those in the diocese who preached up rebellion.

From an *Inspecimus* charter of Henry V, dated 4 Feb. 1415, Wharton argues that one David was nominated by the King for the vacancy intended to be created; but the Registers of Canterbury make no mention of him, and there were two insuperable difficulties in the way of his succeeding: as Trevor had not been canonically deposed, no second bishop could be recognised during his lifetime; and the temporalities were not at the time Henry's to give. Moreover, in the Act of Succession to the throne, 22 Dec. 1406, the Bishop of St. Asaph's name does not occur, his and Bangor's being the only two signatures wanting. In 1407 and 1408 the custody of the spiritualities was entrusted to Thomas Presbury, Abbot of Shrewsbury, "*ratione vacationis episcopatus Assavensis*"; and in a letter addressed by Henry IV to Edward de Charlton, Lord Powys, dated 19 March, 1409, Trevor is de-

scribed as "*Johannes qui se pretendit Episcopum Assavensem, proditor et rebellis.*"<sup>1</sup>

In a charter granted by the above Charlton to the monks of Strata Marcella, A.D. 1420, allusion is made to the havoc and ruin committed during the war, by demolishing and setting on fire as well of churches as monasteries;<sup>2</sup> and the impoverishment of the see, on the same occasion, is made by Henry VI the ground of his continuing to Bishop Lowe the church of Meifod with its *capellæ* of Pool and Guilsfield, A.D. 1439.<sup>3</sup>

Another bishop who became obnoxious to the Crown by reason of his politics, in the days when the whole nation was split into two factions, and ecclesiastics filled the chief offices of the State, was Thomas Knight, a strong Lancastrian, whom Edward IV, on his accession, deprived of his see, the temporalities of which he committed, "*ratione rebellionis Thomæ nuper Episcopi*", first, to Robert, Bishop of Rochester; and on his death, A.D. 1465, to Dr. Caunton;<sup>4</sup> and he dying the same year, to James Stanley, clerk. During the brief interval that witnessed the re-establishment of Henry VI, through the influence of Warwick and Clarence, A.D. 1469, Bishop Knight recovered his rights; but on the restoration of Edward, in the following year, he was again deprived, and charged with treason, but was allowed to compound for his crime by the resignation of his see. His successor, Redman, the rebuilders of the ruined cathedral, being a staunch Yorkist, and finding himself, on the accession of Henry VII, in disfavour with that monarch, entered the more readily into the design to set up Lambert Symnel. The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishops of Winchester, Ely, and Exeter, were appointed by the Pope to inquire into the case, A.D. 1487, and reported him guilty;<sup>5</sup> whereupon, the fraud too having been detected, he submitted himself, and was pardoned. He subsequently rose high in the favour of Henry, and was employed by him on an important mission into Scotland, and also promoted to the richer sees of Exeter and Ely.

The latter part of this century, especially after the cessation

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, i, 73-76.

<sup>2</sup> Powysland, i, 324.

<sup>3</sup> Br Willis, App. i.

<sup>4</sup> Rymer, p. 539.

<sup>5</sup> "*Bullæ Papales*," copied in MS. in Wharton.



of the Wars of the Roses, and the establishment of the Tudors on the throne, was marked by a spirit of church building and restoration that endeavoured vigorously to repair the damages of the past; for not only was the cathedral rebuilt, but many churches throughout the diocese bear witness to the exertions made to improve them during this period. Notably so the Stanley series, as they are sometimes called, at Mold, Holywell (St. Winifred's Chapel), and Northop; to which may be added Gresford, Llangollen, and many others.

But meanwhile another restoration, of far wider scope and more abiding consequence than that of material fabrics, had been slowly but steadily growing into form and consistency,—the restoration of the primitive Catholic faith. To this end many and varied elements had long been contributing; sometimes in mutual accord, sometimes in direct antagonism, according as the means or the end formed the chief point of vision. For many who were anxious for a Reformation, for theological reasons, were totally opposed to the selfish and sacrilegious measures by which it was proposed to bring it about; whilst others, whose main concern was for a share in the plunder, had no sympathy for its higher and truer aspect.

A prime element in the disintegration of the existing system was supplied by the Religious Orders, who, by their mutual jealousies and recriminations, first estranged the laity from one another, and finally alienated them from themselves. The Dominican and Franciscan Friars, whose progress the Historian of the Middle Ages aptly compares to that of the English Methodists, notably contributed to this result. "Not deviating from the faith of the Church, but professing rather to teach it in greater purity, and to observe her ordinances with greater regularity, while they imputed supineness and corruption to the secular clergy, they drew round their sermons a multitude of such listeners as in all ages are attracted by similar means. They practised all the stratagems of itinerancy, preaching in public streets and administering the communion on a portable altar. Thirty years after their institution an historian<sup>1</sup> complains that the

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<sup>1</sup> Matthew Paris.

parish churches were deserted; that none confessed, except to these friars: in short, that the regular discipline was subverted. This uncontrolled privilege of performing sacerdotal functions, which their modern antitypes assume for themselves, was conceded to the Mendicant Orders by the favour of Rome. Aware of the powerful support they might receive in return, the Pontiffs of the thirteenth century accumulated benefits upon the disciples of Francis and Dominic. They were exempted from episcopal authority, and they were permitted to hear confessions without leave of the ordinary, to accept legacies, and to inter in their churches."<sup>1</sup> These very privileges, and the rich gifts that followed on them, soon undermined their character for poverty and superior sanctity, so that the very contrast between their practice and their profession added intensity to the reaction that at last set in. "All writers of the thirteenth and following centuries," says the same historian, "complain in terms of unmeasured indignation, and seem almost ready to reform the general abuses of the Church; but they distinguish clearly enough between the abuses which oppressed them, and those which it was their interest to preserve, and had not the least intention of waiving their own immunities and authority."<sup>2</sup> Others, however, were not slow to use the weapons they supplied. Their great wealth, too, supplied an additional incentive. The gifts originally bestowed upon them in charity were so vastly improved by their economy (for they were the best of husbandmen), and so often increased by collusion,—for it became not uncommon for laymen to enrol their lands as abbey lands, for the sake of the immunities enjoyed by such property from the burdens of the State,—that they excited alike the jealousy of the Crown and the cupidity of individuals. Propositions were often made in Parliament for the confiscation of their property, and its application to public uses; and calculations put forth that appealed at once to the pocket and the ambition of the people,—as in the Bill of 1410, where it was stated that, "by the seizure of their (the clergy's) estates the King would be enabled to create and provide for 15 earls, 1,500 knights, 6,200 esquires, and to found 100 new hospitals." The

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<sup>1</sup> Hallam, *Middle Ages*, ii, 204.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, ii, 215.

practice of endowing alien priories, or cells belonging to foreign religious houses, the appropriation of parochial endowments to religious houses at home, and the suppression of some of these in favour of others, or for the endowment of new colleges, all done with the sanction of the Pope, were quoted as precedents for a new application of the funds, and prepared the way for what was afterwards done, when the King took the Pope's place as Protector and Supreme Head of the Church of England.

To these elements, which would have produced but a revolution, must be added those others which, under God, made it a Reformation. First of these must be named the work of John Wycliffe, whose translation of the Bible not only supplied "a treasure from which multitudes, in defiance both of civil laws and of Church censures, continued to derive consolation in their sorrows and instruction in their ignorance", but enabled them also to judge for themselves of what they had only received before at second hand. The introduction of printing, A.D. 1471, multiplied the material for the newly awakened appetite to feed upon; and the revival of Greek learning, at the end of the century, opened up resources of priceless value, both for ascertaining the mind of the New Testament writers, and for the correction of many erroneous developments in doctrine and ceremonial which had resulted inevitably from the sole use of the Latin language, the structure of which was too stiff and inadequate to represent fully the meaning of the original.

Two of the bishops of St. Asaph, Reginald Pecock and Henry Standish, helped on unintentionally, and each in a different way, the great movement of the period. Pecock was a man of great intellectual power and a keenly logical mind, who, though "a strong opponent of Lollardism, and a vigorous supporter of the papal claims in their strongest form,"<sup>1</sup> held distinctly Protestant views on some particular points. Relying on the protection of Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, uncle and protector to Henry VI, whose chaplain he had been, and by whose influence he was promoted to this see A.D. 1444, and translated to Chichester A.D. 1449, he not only held that the clergy might marry, but also

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<sup>1</sup> Hook's *Archbishops of Canterbury*, v, "Life of Bouchier."



openly maintained that it was "not necessary for salvation to believe and approve all that was affirmed and determined by a general council, and that the Universal Church may err in matters of faith." On the death of his patron he was called to account for these and other opinions relating to the descent into Hell, and the communion of saints, framed out of his writings, and deemed heretical; and his strength of mind not being equal to that of his intellect, nor his moral courage sufficient to make him stand to his logical deductions in the face of the statute "De Heretico comburendo", he consented to abjure them. This was done at St. Paul's cross, where he had to submit to seeing his books burnt before his face; and he was himself sentenced to perpetual imprisonment in Thorney Abbey, where "he was to have no book to look on, but only a Portuos and a Masse Book, a Saulter or Legend, and a Bible; and to have nothing to write with, no stuff to write upon."<sup>1</sup> Though Pecock was thus silenced, the influence of his works remained and spread.

Standish distinguished himself when still a Franciscan friar, A.D. 1515, by taking the anti-clerical side, against the Abbot of Winchelcomb, in the great controversy as to the exemption of ecclesiastics from the civil courts. He incurred thereby the odium of the Bishops, who preferred charges against him as a "promoter of evils"; but through the influence of the King he was acquitted, and in 1518 promoted to this see. Standish was a vehement opponent of Erasmus, and wrote a treatise against his translation of the New Testament, in which he styled him "Græculus iste", a term that afterwards became synonymous with heretic. In A.D. 1530 he was one of the bishops who assisted Queen Catherine in the memorable suit concerning her divorce from Henry, which may be looked upon as the crisis of the movement; for when the political difficulties of the Pope forced him to decide against the King, for fear of offending the Emperor, the former threw off the supremacy, and claimed for himself to be the protector and supreme head of the Church of England, as far as may be permitted by the laws of Christ,—"*quantum per Christi leges liceat*." This reservation, and the fact

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<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, i, 83.



that Henry had, for his orthodoxy, received from the Pope himself the title of "Defender of the Faith", require to be borne in mind in order to understand how, on theological grounds, the new title was accepted,—a title, be it remembered, acquiesced in by Mary, but indignantly disclaimed by Elizabeth, and only accepted by her in a very modified form. The transfer of the supremacy to the King was quickly followed by the prohibition to pay first-fruits to the Pope, the forbidding of appeals to Rome, and a declaration that the canonical oath of obedience to the Supreme Pontiff, taken by the Bishops, was incompatible with the duty of subjects to the crown. The "Letters Missive" which Henry now added to the *cong   d'  lire* were but the engrafting on the ancient "licentia eligendi" of the modern "jus provisionis", by which the Popes had claimed to nominate to sees.

The form in which the Dean and Chapter abjured the supremacy of the Pope for that of the King, being the same as that used by the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, illustrates very aptly the nature and extent of the change, A.D. 1534.<sup>1</sup> Acknowledging in the preface their obligation to render to the King ("cui uni et soli post Christum Jesum Servatorem nostrum debemus universa") entire allegiance and fealty as Christian subjects ("omnimodam in Christo fidem", etc.), they engage, both personally and officially, to regard him as head of the Church of England ("caput Ecclesi   Anglican  "); that as the Roman Bishop who usurps the title of Pope and the sovereignty of Supreme Pontiff, has no higher authority conferred upon him by God, within this realm, than any other foreign bishop, they will not speak of or pray for him under those titles, but only as Bishop of Rome; that, renouncing such laws, decrees, and canons of the Bishop of Rome as are found to be contrary to the divine law and Holy Scripture, or the laws of the realm, they will adhere to the King, and maintain his laws; that in their addresses, both public and private, they will not pervert passages of Holy Writ to a non-natural meaning ("ad alienum sensum"); but in a Catholic and orthodox sense will preach Christ, His words and deeds, simply and purely, after the rule of Holy Scripture and of

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<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, Appendix LXV.

truly Catholic and orthodox doctors. In the "Bidding Prayer" the Pope's name was to be omitted, and the King's put first, followed by those of the two Archbishops and the other orders of the clergy. This memorable Declaration bears date the 21st August, 1534, and is signed by "Fulco Salusbury, Decanus; Johannes Breiton, Canonicus; Galfridus Ruthin, Prebendarius; David Owayn, Prebendarius"; and another, "cujus nomen vix legi potest."

The bishopric was at this time vacant, Standish having died July 9th, and his successor, William Barlow, not having been appointed till the beginning of the following year. Barlow was a strenuous advocate of the Reformation, and having been translated in 1536 to St. David's, and thence to Bath and Wells, was deprived of his see on the accession of Queen Mary. On the accession of Elizabeth, however, he was appointed to Chichester; and was the chief consecrator of Matthew Parker, the first Archbishop of Canterbury under the reformed faith.<sup>1</sup>

In the rule laid down in the above Declaration for interpreting Holy Scripture, we have the true principle of the Reformation; that which made it what its name really imports, and prevented it from becoming, as elsewhere, a merely ecclesiastical revolution. The movement as yet, indeed, was only in the germ. Its full development was the work of much time, and the result of many a hard struggle of conflicting interests and principles. Its progress, too, was much slower here than in England; for no

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<sup>1</sup> Much importance has hence been attached to the consecration of Bishop Barlow, because the records of it have been lost, and Roman Catholics have taken occasion therefrom to assert that the orders in the Church of England are of doubtful validity. But the same thing might be said of many bishops before the Reformation, and notably so of Parker's predecessor, Cardinal Pole, who, nevertheless, was recognised as canonical Primate of all England by the Pope and bishops of England. Indeed, according to the modern Roman theory, there is no proof that Pole was ever validly consecrated, for not one of his seven consecrators can be proved, according to that theory, to have been canonical bishops. But Parker stands in a much better position; for though the records of the consecration of Barlow cannot be found, yet the names of his consecrators are known (see *Haddan on Bramhall*, iii, 138-143, and preface), and the validity of the orders of the three other bishops who joined with Barlow in consecrating Parker is indisputable. See Stubbs's *Registrum Sacrum Anglicanum*, and also Mr. Haddan's new work on *Apostolical Succession in the Church of England*, 1869.

one had hitherto been found to do for his countrymen in Wales what Wycliffe had done so long ago for England. Only portions of the Holy Scriptures appear to have been translated into Welsh, and not a single book of any kind to have been printed in the language, before the Reformation. The Welsh Bible was in every sense a Reformation gift. In the preface to W. Salesbury's translation of the New Testament, published A.D. 1567, Bishop Richard Davies states that the only portion he had ever seen in Welsh was an old MS. of the Pentateuch, which no one seemed to value or understand. The Gospel of St. John, with a Commentary, is also mentioned in a recent catalogue of Welsh MSS.,<sup>1</sup> and as this catalogue relates to one of the best collections, it may supply no unfair illustration of the character of the Welsh religious literature of the pre-Reformation period. The list includes a few scriptural subjects and many legendary ones, and some devotional and some theological. Thus we have among the former, "Stories of Adam and Eve, and of their Children, till the time of Noah," "Part of the History of St. Mark," "Pedigree of the Blessed Virgin," her "Life," "History of her Return from Egypt," "History of Pilate," "Account of Christ and Pilate, and of the Jews," "Story of Judas Iscariot," "Vision of St. Paul." Of legendary and apocryphal we have "The Gospel according to Nicodemus," "Story of St. Catherine," "Account of the Manner in which Mary Magdalene and others came to Marseilles," "Miracles of various Saints," "Letter of Pilate to Claudius concerning Christ," "Letter of Melitus, Bishop of Sardinia, to the Laodiceans," "Miracles of St. Edmund, Archbishop of Canterbury," "Story of Owein going to Purgatory." In devotion and theology we find "The Mass for Good Friday," Athanasius' Creed, "Llyfr Difnyddiaeth ar y Pader a'r Credo;" "The Master and Scholar," by Archbishop Anselm; "The third Book of a holy Life, and the Pœniteas;" "The Sinner's Confession, and Questions on the Catholic Faith and the Ten Commandments." There may have been other books of the Bible translated, as there certainly were other legends and treatises; but the above will shew their general character and tendency. Such were the writings of the

<sup>1</sup> The Hengwrt MSS. at Peniarth, No. 1-66, in *Arch. Camb.*, July, 1869.



more learned; the people generally had to be affected by other means.

As the Church services were rendered in Latin, the ritual was made as symbolical and the ceremonial as impressive as possible, in order to teach the heart through the eye. This was further aimed at in the "Miracle Plays," of which the "Interludes" of the last century were the poor representatives. All this, with the marked preponderance of legendary and apocryphal lore, will account for the superstitious character of much of the common religion. "The people naturally are very devout", says a writer<sup>1</sup> so late as 1575, "having in heart doubtless engrafted as great fear, regard, and reverence of a supernall power as any people in the world elsewhere have; but more than the name of God they know nothing at all, and therefore, as utterly ignorant of Him or of their salvation, do still in heaps go on pilgrimage to the wonted wells and places of superstition; and in the nights after the feasts, when the old offerings were wont to be kept at any idol's chapel, albeit the church be pulled down, yet do they come to the place where the church or chapel was by great journeys, barefoot, very superstitiously", etc. Of these pilgrimages we have further evidence. In a lease of Gresford vicarage house,<sup>2</sup> dated 34 Henry VIII, it is stated "that many offerings had been brought to this church from divers parts of the country; by reason of which the said church was strongly and beautifully made, erected, and builded; and also all manner of ornaments were bought and provided, and not a little aid obtained this way for the better sustentation of the living; but that these had lately, for certain abuses, been by a law abrogated and taken away, and had left the parishioners badly off both for the offerings and the advantage accruing from the concourse of persons that used to frequent it." The average offerings "coram imagine Sti. Garmon", at Llanarmon-yn-Ial, are returned in the *Valor Eccles.* of 26 Henry VIII at "xxx.s."; those "ad reliquias" at Penant Melangell, at "lvi.s. viii.d."; those "ad S'cam Crucem" in Strata Marcella, at "vs."; and those "ad S'cam Wenefredam" at

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<sup>1</sup> MS. Lansdowne, iii, art. 4, in Original Letters, iii, 49.

<sup>2</sup> MS. in Bishop's library.



Holywell, at the large sum of “x.l.” Ellis Price, in one of his letters to Cromwell, who had appointed him “Commissarie General of the diocese of Saynte Asaph.....for the expulsinge and takynge awaye of certen abusions, supēsticions, and ipocryses usid within the saide diocese”, states that “there ys an image of Darvell Gadarn within the saide diosece, in whome the people have so greate confidence, hope and truste, that they cumme daylye a pillgrimage unto hym; somme with kyne, other with oxen or horsis, and the reste withe money; insomuche that there was fyve or syxe hundrethe pillgrames to a man’s estimacion that offered to the saide image the fifte daye of this presente monethe of Aprill. The innocente people hathe ben sore aluryd and entisid to worshipec the saide image, insomuche that there ys a commyn sayinge as yet amongst them, that whosoever will offer anie thinge to the saide image of Darvell Gadarn, he hath power to fatche hym or them that so offers oute of hell when they be dampned.”<sup>1</sup> Naturally enough, with all this, the second commandment was altogether omitted from the Decalogue, which was thus taught in Bishop Richard Davies’s youth:

“Unum crede Deum, ne jures vana per ipsum,  
Sabbatha sanctifices, habeas in honore parentes,  
Ne sis occisor, fur, mœchus, testis iniquus,  
Alterius nuptam, non rem cupies alienam.”<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Suppression of Monasteries*, p. 190, in Camden Series.

<sup>2</sup> Preface to William Salesbury’s *New Testament*, 1567.

## CHAPTER VII.

## THE REFORMATION.

Valor Ecclesiasticus, 26 Henry VIII.—Dissolution of Monasteries.—Reformation under Edward VI, Mary, Elizabeth.—Diocesan Return, A.D. 1560.—Synod, A.D. 1561.—Translation of the New Testament and Prayer Book.—William Salesbury and Bishop Richard Davies.—Dr. Morgan's translation of the Old Testament.—Case of Bishop Hughes.—Bishop Morgan's episcopate.—Synod at St. Asaph, A.D. 1601.

THE transfer of the "annates", or first-fruits, and the tenths, from the Pope to the King, was followed by the issue of a commission in the twenty-sixth year of Henry VIII, A.D. 1535, to inquire into their true value. Since the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas, A.D. 1291, a great improvement had taken place in the value of all ecclesiastical property, and henceforth the new *Valor* became the standard, to which reference had to be made in all points touching the revenue of the Church, and the contributions it should make to the State. The subsequent suppression of monasteries, and the discharge from the payment of first-fruits and tenths of parsonages under the value of ten merks, and of vicarages under the value of ten pounds, in some measure lowered the importance of the *Valor* as a public document; yet as an historical document its value remains undiminished, which is apparent when it is recollected that we have here presented to us, in one view, the whole ecclesiastical establishment of England and Wales. For importance it has been well compared with the *Domesday Book*; for "as in the latter we are presented with a view of the feudal distributions of England as they were settled at the Conquest, so here we have the ecclesiastical distributions as they existed not only at the time this survey was made, but as they had existed, scarcely altered, from the close of the reign of King Henry I; and as in *Domesday Book* we are presented

with the value of the tenures, and of the particular species of property attached to them, so here we have the valuation of the various dignities and benefices, and of the particular species of property with which they were endowed." The return was required to be made of all the fixed property belonging to any benefice; of all the tithe property, and of all the customary oblations, estimated *communibus annis*. From the gross amount of these, certain deductions were to be made before the value was ascertained on which the first-fruits and tenths were levied. These deductions consisted of—1, the rents resolute to the chief lords, and all other annual and perpetual rents and charges; 2, the alms which were due to the poor, according to any foundation or ordinance; 3, fees to stewards, receivers, bailiffs, and auditors; and 4, synodals and procurations,<sup>1</sup> with which most benefices were charged. Thus, in the account of the possessions of the monasteries we have, first, the annual value of the precincts; next, of the lands which were situated in the county in which the house stood; the lands in other counties; and last, the impropriate rectories: and, on the other hand, the rents resolute, the alms, the fees, and the synodals. So in the accounts of the benefices we have, in the unimpropriate parishes, an account of the value of the parsonage house, glebe, and tithe (the value of each particular tithe being often set forth), with the oblations; and in the impropriate, the sources of the vicar's income; while the other portions of the profits are accounted for by the religious houses to which the benefices were appropriated.<sup>2</sup>

The return was published by the Record Commission in 1821, under the title, "Valor Ecclesiasticus Henr. VIII, A.D. 1535"; the portion relating to the diocese of St. Asaph being given in vol. iv, pp. 433-456, under the heading, "Valor om'i' et sing'lor' D'nior' Maner' Terr' Ten'tor' et alior' Possessionu' quor'cu'q' t'm Ep'atus Assaven' p'dict' q'm om'i et sin'glor' Dignitatu' Colleg' Hospital' Monast'ior' Priorat' et aliar' Domuu' Religios' Rector' Vicar' Cantar' et aliar' P'mocionu' Sp'ualiu' quar'cu'q' ib'm capt' et fact'

<sup>1</sup> Procurations were payments made for the entertainment of the archdeacon at his visitations. Synodals were procurations to the bishop, who formerly held his visitation and synod together.

<sup>2</sup> Introduction to *Val. Eccl.* Henry VIII.

juxta eff'c'm cujusd<sup>a</sup>m Com'ission' d'ni Regis Reve'ndo in X'p'o Patri Ep'o Assaven' Ric'o Bulkeley Militi<sup>1</sup> et aliis direct'." The other commissioners were the same as those for Bangor,<sup>2</sup> viz. William ap William, John Arnold, John Puleston,<sup>3</sup> John Bulkeley, William Griffith Conwey, Reginald Conwey, Hugh Conwey, John Wynn ap Meredydd,<sup>4</sup> Griffith ap Robert Vychan, Eliseus ap Morys, Hugh Lewis, Richard ap David, Richard ap Howell ap Evan Vychan,<sup>5</sup> and John ap Howell Vychan,<sup>6</sup> with Henry Parker and Richard Hawkyn as auditors.

Besides the general information so valuable for the history of individual places, the *Valor* contains many noteworthy particulars of wider interest. The deaneries and parishes differ but slightly from the return of A.D. 1291; but there appears a new class of churches described as "liberæ capellæ",<sup>7</sup> *e. g.*, "Beatæ Mariæ de Penrhyn", "Infra Ecclesiam de Oswestre", and "Infra Castrum de Dynbighe ex fundacione Domini Regis". Besides these there were also in the towns and country parishes numerous other *capellæ*, cells, and oratories, belonging to the different religious orders or denominations of Pre-Reformation Nonconformists. Leland enumerates several as existing in his time at Oswestry, whilst parochial history and tradition supply ample evidence of similar cases through the length and breadth of the diocese; but not being specially endowed, and therefore yielding no tenths, they were not taken into account in the present *Valor*.

From the particulars of tithe we find that hemp and flax were at that time cultivated to a considerable extent in Ysgeiviog, and possibly in other parishes also; and that the offerings presented at different shrines, *e. g.*, St. Winifred's, St. Garmon's, St. George's, St. Martin's, Pennant Melangell, and at Holy Cross in Strata Marcella, proved no inconsiderable sources of income. The following table will shew, by comparison with that on p. 56,

<sup>1</sup> Tenant of the (Bangor) episcopal manor of Treffôs.

<sup>2</sup> *Val. Eccl.*, iv, 415.

<sup>3</sup> Steward of the Abbey of Bardsey, and receiver for the diocese of St. Asaph.

<sup>4</sup> Steward of Aberconway or Maenan Abbey.

<sup>5</sup> Lessee of Llanasa tithes.

<sup>6</sup> Tenant of the grange of Talerddig under Strata Marcella.

<sup>7</sup> Exempt from the jurisdiction of the Ordinary.



that whilst the income of the Bishop and Chapter had not quite doubled itself during the two hundred and fifty years since the *Taxatio* of A.D. 1291, that of the religious houses had vastly increased; even with the qualification attached, that whilst in the earlier *Valor* such property only as lay within the diocese was taken into the account, in the present one all property, wherever situate, is included:

		<i>Temporalia.</i>				<i>Spiritualia.</i>				<i>Nett (clare).</i>			
		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Bishop and Chapter	-	25	10	0	...	431	19	6	...	441	16	4	
Basingwerk Abbey	-	126	8	10	...	157	15	2	...	150	7	3	
Conway v. Maenan	-	123	2	0	...	56	8	10	...	162	15	0	
Valle Crucis	-	61	7	0	...	152	16	5	...	188	8	0	
Strata Marcella	-	51	2	6	...	22	5	0	...	64	14	2	
Halston Commaundry	-	69	14	10	...	91	0	0	...	160	14	0	
Llanllugan Nunnery	-	9	6	0	...	13	8	8	} ...	25	8	0	
						2	13	4 <sup>1</sup>					

The extent and value of the monastic property, for the monks were easy landlords and good farmers, were such as to excite the cupidity of many a needy neighbour, whose designs were materially furthered by "the Committee of Visitors" appointed to examine into the condition of the religious houses. These reported the existence of gross and shameful abuses; truly, no doubt, as far as related to some of the smaller foundations.<sup>2</sup> But in the preamble to the Act of 27 Henry VIII it is distinctly asserted that "in the greater monasteries, thanks be to God, religion is right well preserved and kept up." The current, however, against them was irresistible, and they were quickly seized by the King; for we have a decree of the Court of Augmentation, 31 Henry VIII, restoring to the Bishop and his successors "the several pensions, annuities, lactuals, etc., paid to him by the monasteries of Basingwerk, Conway, Valle Crucis, Strata Marcella, and Llanllugan, before their dissolution; and ordering the said sums, *with their arrears*, to be paid thenceforth by the receivers of the several manors, lands, tenements, and possessions." In one or two instances the receivers, being also commissioners, managed to

<sup>1</sup> "Lib'a porcio in Villa de Cletharth in P'ochia de Eglos in dioc' Assaven'." Qu. *Gloddaeth in Eglwys Rhôs?*

<sup>2</sup> Letters on "Dissolution of Monasteries" in the Camden Series.

secure for themselves the manors of which they had previously been stewards; in others, the properties, temporal and spiritual alike, were granted to courtiers and favourites,<sup>1</sup> from whom they have passed, like common property, by inheritance and purchase, to their present holders.

In the indiscriminate condemnation of monasteries for the evils that some of them were guilty of, and for the good they failed to accomplish, it has been too much the fashion to overlook the good they actually did; and though there may have been many abuses, still upon the whole there need be no hesitation in affirming that, with all their faults, they did incomparably more for the public good than those who, under the new and baneful name of impropiators, obtained their incomes. They at least endeavoured, more or less, to supply schools for the young, hospitals for the sick, almshouses for the poor, and inns for the wayfarers; and in the larger ones there were generally some engaged in copying MSS., sacred, devotional, or historical; and one whose special duty it was to chronicle events of national and local history. In the abbey chapel the voice of prayer and praise was seldom silent; in the appropriated livings they sometimes supported a collegiate establishment for the performance of divine service on a worthy scale; and in their outlying property they had often their own cell or chapel for the benefit of their tenants. But under the new system of impropiators all these things were put a stop to without, as far as the impropiators were concerned, anything better being supplied in their stead; whereas the places which have ever since continued to suffer from the evil, are some of the most important and populous in the whole diocese, such as Wrexham, Mold, Holywell, Llangollen, Oswestry, Rhwabon, Welshpool, Berriew, etc.

The general acquiescence in such a change, and the comparative insignificance of the opposition made to it, notwithstanding the vast and varied interests at stake, must be accounted for by the fact that the measure was so far a political rather than a religious one, brought about by the whole state (partly, indeed, against the remonstrances of the Church, for some of the leading

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<sup>1</sup> For names, see p. 32.

Reformers were opposed to the indiscriminate dissolution of the monasteries, and wished them to be reformed rather than destroyed); and that prior to the Reformation proper, by a King and Parliament of the Roman Catholic communion in all points save that of the supremacy.

It was not until the reign of Edward VI that the principles of the Reformation proper began to take root and spread in the Principality. Many learned and eminent men began then to work in the new cause; foremost among whom must be named the venerated William Salesbury, who published in 1546 the first book ever printed in the Welsh language. This book contained the Alphabet, Calendar, Creed, Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments, and other matter, as we are told by its comprehensive title-page, "Yn y Llyfyr hwn y traethyr Gwyddor Cymraeg. Kalendyr, Y Credo neu bynkeu yr ffydd Gatholig. Y Pader neu Weddi yr Arglwydd. Y Deng Air Deddyf. Saith rinwedd yr Eglwys. Y Kampay arveradwy a'r gweddiieu gocheladwy ac Keingeu." This was followed, in 1551, by his translation of the Epistles and Gospels for the year, entitled "Kynniver Llith a ban o'r Ysgrythur Lân ac a ddarlleir yn yr Eccleis pryd Commun; y sulieu a'r gwiliu trwy'r vlywyddyn."

The accession of Mary, A.D. 1553, gave the movement a check; for though the Queen promised at first not to interfere with its professors, still those who had been most prominent in the cause, knowing her strong bias, preferred to consult their safety by retirement or exile. Salesbury withdrew to Caedu, a small farmhouse among the hills in the parish of Llansannan; in which, until it was pulled down a few years ago, a curiously constructed chamber with a small loophole-window, and accessible only by a passage through the chimney, was pointed out as the traditionally received place of his refuge and study during this troublous period. Richard Davies, who afterwards became Bishop of St. Asaph, and a fellow-worker with Salesbury, fled to Geneva; others betook themselves to Frankfort; and some few, who thought to keep their posts, were deprived, not, indeed, on the ground of their Protestantism, but professedly at least for having broken the law of celibacy, by having taken advantage of the permission to marry recently granted to the clergy. Such were



Bishop Barlow, formerly of this see, but now of Bath and Wells; the first, if not the only one as yet, of English bishops to take to himself a wife; Archdeacons Pollard and Thomas Davies, the latter of whom was subsequently promoted to the bishopric; John ap Madoc, vicar of Guilsfield; Lancelot Pydleston, rector of Corwen; and Griffith ap Ienn, rector of Llandegla.

In the injunctions issued to his clergy by Bishop Goldwell in A.D. 1536, besides the prohibition of married clergy from celebrating (or, as it is there put, "no priest having a woman at his commandement" to celebrate), we find two other marks of retrogression,—the schools which had begun to be held in churches, for the benefit of the poor, were forbidden; and obedience was required to all Church laws and constitutions, "as well synodalls as provincials or legantines". The other points enjoined related to matters of order and discipline, the fines for disobedience to which were to be applied to the church fabrics or the diocesan grammar school.<sup>1</sup> A renewal of indulgences was also obtained by him from the Pope, in behalf of the pilgrims to St. Winifred's Well.<sup>2</sup>

The death of the Queen, however, was a great blow to the party, who felt that they had little to expect from Elizabeth, whose sympathies were known to lie with the Reformers, and who was not likely now to forget the treatment she had received at their hands. Goldwell, nominated for translation from this see to Oxford; Wood, elected to succeed him here; and Maurice Clynog, rector of Corwen, Bishop-Elect of Bangor, all missed their promotion; and with them John Lloyd, dean; Humphrey Edwards, archdeacon; Maurice ap Thomas, canon; Dr. Harrison, rector of Whitford; and William Myddelton, rector of Llansannan, a layman; were either deprived of their preferments or voluntarily resigned them.

The accession of Elizabeth was a happy event for the Church in Wales, and her reign proved the bright spot in its Reformation. One of her first cares was to have the Welsh sees filled by natives who could understand the language and feelings of the people as well as discharge the special duties of their office; and

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<sup>1</sup> Wilkins, *Concilia*, iv, 145.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Powell's notes to Giraldus, p. 149.



the learned exile, Richard Davies, who had now been restored to his preferments, was consecrated Bishop of St. Asaph on Jan. 31, 1560. A return<sup>1</sup> made by him the same year, to Archbishop Parker, furnishes valuable information relating to this important period. "For certain considerations conducent to the general reformation of the clergie of the province of Canterbury", the Archbishop had required his suffragans to certify "the names and surnames of all and singular deanes, archdeacons, chauncellers, chaunters, and others having dignitie in the cathedral church, with all prebendaries of the same; and also of all and singular parsones and vicars within the diocese, and how many of them, as well of the cathedral church as of other benefices in the diocese, be neither prestes nor deacons; notinge also the names of all such as be learned, and able to preache; and which of them, being already licensed, do preach accordingly; and fynallie, howe many of them do keape hospitalitie". From the Bishop's return, which gives a complete list of all the clergy with their degrees, preferments, and such other points as are above specified, we gather that there were among them *three under age* ("adhuc pueri"),—two being prebendaries of the cathedral, and the third the rector of Caerwys, "grammaticam discens"; *two unordained* ("nondum in sacris ordinibus initiati"), the rectors of Llandrillo yn Rhôs, and of Whitford; and *three pursuing their studies at Oxford*, the rectors of Corwen, Llandrillo yn Edeirnion, and Marchwiel. These rectors, however, it must be added, were all sinecures, with the exception of the last, who had special leave of absence, "studet Oxon' ad tempus ex licentia Episcopi"; and in each case there was a resident vicar, so that there appears to have been no parish left without a clergyman. The competent preachers, however ("concionatores evangelici"), were very few, only five,—Hugh Evans, M.A., dean; John Price, LL.B., rector of Whittington and vicar of Oswestry, chancellor of the diocese; Thomas Jenkins, M.A., rector of Newtown; Griffith Lloyd, LL.B., rector of Llanvyllin; and David Lloyd, B.A., rector of Llangwm-dinmael and Bettws Gweryll (Gôch). "Hi concionantur utcumque ad aliquam utilitatem et ædificationem inter

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<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, App. LIX.

indoctos et imperitos quales habet nostra diocesis; præterea nulli sunt." Taking this to refer more especially to Welsh preaching, I conceive the explanation thereof to be that pointed out by Dr. Morgan in his dedication to Queen Elizabeth some thirty years later, where he accounts for the continued paucity of Welsh preachers by the long disuse of the language in the Church and the absence of a complete translation of the Bible; the proper terms having become either forgotten or so obscured "ut nec docentes quæ vellent satis experte explicare, nec audientes quæ explicabantur satis feliciter intelligere valerent." The fact, however, still remained that the preachers were "paucissimi" and the people "indocti et imperiti", ignorant and unlearned; so much so, that in the preamble to the Act passed in 1563, for the translation of the Bible into Welsh, it is stated "that Her Majesty's loving and obedient subjects inhabiting within Her Highness's dominion and principality of Wales are entirely destitute of God's Holy Word, and do remain in the like or rather the more darkness and ignorance than they were in the time of Papistry."

On the translation of Richard Davies to St. David's, he was succeeded at St. Asaph by Thomas Davies, who at once set to work to carry out the work of reformation. In a diocesan council, held at St. Asaph Nov. 12th, A.D. 1561,<sup>1</sup> we find the following important orders among others agreed upon by the clergy:

"That every of them have the Catechisme yn the mother tonge in Welshe, red and declared yn ther severall churches every Sunday, with the answer made therunto accordingly, and yn the Englyshe tonge at — on Sundays and holydays.

"That every of them shall forthwith avoyd, remove and put away, or cause to be put away, all and every fayned relyques and other superstycyons had withyn ther severall churches, and abolyshe ther auters yn the same, within eight days.

"That every parson, vycar or curate, and stypendary prest, being under the degre of a Master of Arte, shall have and provyde to have yn his use and occupation the New Testament yn Latin and Englyshe, with the paraphrase of Erasmus upon the same, and to learn two chapters of the same yn memorie withoute the boke, vizt. the fyrst to the Romans and the sixth of John.

"The Litany to be sung or seyd on Wenesdays and Frydays.

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<sup>1</sup> Wilkins, *Concilia*, iv, 228.

“After the pistyll and gospell yn Englyshe, the same to be red also yn Welshe.”

The office of “Lady-prest”, which had existed “yn sondrie churches yn my dyocs’,” having been abolished, the stipend was assigned to “a scolemaster” for the teaching of children, “whereby idelness of yowth may be avoyded, and the same kept to learning, and browght upp in love and fear of God and knowledge of ther dewties towerd the worlde.”

In the Convocation records of the following year, A.D. 1562, in which the Thirty-Nine Articles were agreed upon, there appeared, in addition to the Bishop’s, the following signatures as representative of this diocese: “Hugo Evans, decanus; Richardus Rogers,<sup>1</sup> archid.; Robert Hues,<sup>2</sup> proc. capit; Johannes Price<sup>3</sup> and Thomas Pówell, procur. cleri”; and among the other representatives two of its beneficed clergy, “Nicolaus Robinson,<sup>4</sup> archid. Meirion, and Edmund Merick,<sup>5</sup> arch. Bangor.”

In the Act of 1563 the duty of translating the Bible was assigned to the Bishops of St. Asaph, Bangor, St. David’s, Llandaff, and Hereford; one at least of whom, Richard Davies (of St. David’s) was well known as an eminent Biblical scholar and critic, and was engaged on the new English translation known as Parker’s Bible, published in 1568; in which he revised and compared with the original Hebrew the Books of Joshua, Ruth, and I and II Samuel. For assisting in the Welsh translation and the general superintendence of the work, the talents, learning, and patriotism of William Salesbury, as well as his zeal for the Protestant religion, pointed him out as preeminently qualified;<sup>6</sup> and this duty of general editor he consented, at their request, to perform. The New Testament was completed and printed in 1567, by far the chief part of it being his work; Bishop Davies having translated I Timothy, Hebrews, St. James, I and II St. Peter; and Thomas

<sup>1</sup> Suffragan Bishop of Dover, 1583; Dean of Canterbury, 1584.

<sup>2</sup> Canon; rector of Llannefydd.

<sup>3</sup> Vicar of Oswestry; chancellor of the diocese.

<sup>4</sup> Rector of Northop; Bishop of Bangor, 1566.

<sup>5</sup> Rector of Corwen.

<sup>6</sup> He was well acquainted with nine languages besides Welsh and English, namely Hebrew, Chaldee, Syriac, Arabic, Greek, Latin, French, Italian, and Spanish; and had written well upon philology and rhetoric. (See Williams’s *Eminent Welshmen*.)



Huet, precentor of St. David's ("cantor Menevensis"), the Revelation. The same year there appeared also a translation of the Prayer Book by the Bishop and W. Salesbury, the expenses of printing being shared between them. In his "Rhagymadrodd" (preface) to the New Testament, the Bishop further holds out a promise of the speedy appearance of the Old; and according to Sir John Wynn, of Gwydir,<sup>1</sup> "they were very onward with it, and had gone through with it, if variance had not happened between them, after they had spent nearly two years in that business, concerning the general sense and etymology of one word,<sup>2</sup> which the Bishop would have to be one way, and William Salesbury another, to the great loss of the old British and mother tongue; for being together they drew homilies, books, and divers other tracts in the British tongue, and had done far more if that unlucky division had not happened; for the Bishop lived five or six years after, and William Salesbury about twenty-four, but gave over writing (more was the pity), for he was a rare scholar, and especially a Hebrician, whereof there was not many in those days." The good work, thus unhappily interrupted, was delayed for twenty years, until Dr. William Morgan, vicar of Llanrhaiadrn-Mochnant, consented to undertake it, and published his, the first, edition of the whole Bible in 1588. In this Dr. Morgan made use of the previous translation of the New Testament, and had the benefit of Davies and Salesbury's labours upon the Old (for they had done a great part of it during the two years); but this must not diminish our admiration for his vast learning and zeal, or our gratitude for his invaluable service. The difficulty of the task, the expense of printing, and the opposition he encountered, would have deterred him, he tells us in his dedication, from proceeding further than the Pentateuch, had it not been for the influence, counsel, and pecuniary assistance of Archbishop

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<sup>1</sup> Memoirs, p. 106.

<sup>2</sup> What that unfortunate word was, or even whether it was Welsh or Hebrew, we have now no means of knowing; but we must not attribute to any unworthy personal or jealous feeling that which was, no doubt, a matter of vital truth or error to them; for we know that there have been in every age, and *à fortiori* in that, crucial terms that have divided men of the highest intellect and purest character into opposing camps; and in no subject so frequently as in theology.



Whitgift. A dispute with his parishioners (it is said that when they found he was engaged upon the work of translation they complained to the Archbishop of his incompetency for the task) rendered it necessary for him to appear before Whitgift, who formed so high an opinion of his abilities that he appointed him his chaplain, and persuaded him to go on with the translation of the whole.

Another difficulty he had to contend against was the opposition of those who objected to his undertaking as an obstacle to the complete union of the two peoples, and maintained that the best way of preserving concord between them was to compel the Welsh to learn the English language. To these the translator replies in wise and weighty words,—words which, fully acknowledging the great desirability of having all the inhabitants of the same island speaking the same language, yet point out with singular force and perspicuity the serious practical danger attending such a course in a matter of such vital importance,—words that, for their continued applicability to our bilingual state, deserve not only to be repeated here, but to be engraven in the consciences of every occupant of our bilingual sees and every incumbent of our bilingual parishes: “*Si qui consensus retinendi gratia nostrates ut Anglicum sermonem ediscant adigendos esse, potius quam Scripturas in nostrum sermonem vertendas esse volunt,—dum unitati student ne veritati obsint cautiores esse velim, et dum concordiam promovent ne religionem amoveant magis esse sollicitos opto. Quamvis enim ejusdem insulæ incolas ejusdem sermonis et loquelæ esse magnoperè optandum sit; æque tamen perpendendum est, istud ut perficiatur, tantum temporis et negotii peti ut interea Dei populum miserrima illius Verbi fame interire velle aut pati, nimis sit sævum atque crudele. Deinde non dubium est quin religionis quam sermonis ad unitatem plus valeat similitudo et consensus. Unitatem præterea pietati, utilitatem religioni et externam quandam inter homines concordiam eximie illi paci quam Dei verbum humanis animis imprimit præferre non satis pium est. Postremò quam non sapiunt, si verbi divini in maternâ linguâ habendi prohibitionem aliena ut ediscatur quicquam movere opinantur! Religio enim nisi vulgari lingua edoceatur ignota latitabit: Ejus vero rei quam quis*

ignorat, usum dulcedinem et precium etiam nescit, nec ejus acquirendæ gratia quicquam laboris subibit.”<sup>1</sup> Happily the good Doctor persevered through all, and the whole Bible appeared in Welsh A.D. 1588. Well had it been for the sister Church in Ireland had similar wise counsels been allowed to prevail for her good; and had Salesburies and Davieses and Morgans been permitted to translate into the native Erse, in which alone so many of her children could think and speak, the words of life and worship contained in the Bible and the Prayer Book; but, alas! “quam non sapierunt”.

Among those who in different ways assisted Dr. Morgan in his work, and to whom he expresses his special obligations, were, the Bishops of St. Asaph (William Hughes) and Bangor (Hugh Bellot),<sup>2</sup> both of whom helped with the loan of books (no small boon in those days), and by examining and correcting his work; Gabriel Goodman, Dean of Westminster (the founder of Ruthin school), who aided with the gift and loan of books, with personal assistance in criticism and counsel, and with generous hospitality during the year the work was passing through the press. Besides whom, Dr. David Powel,<sup>3</sup> Archdeacon Price,<sup>4</sup> and Mr. Richard Vaughan,<sup>5</sup> contributed no inconsiderable amount of assistance (“opem tulerunt non contemnendam”). This translation, revised by Bishop Parry, aided by his chaplain the learned Dr. Davies, and in some places so altered and amended, he tells us in his preface, as to render it doubtful whether it should be called a revised or a new version (“vetus an nova, Morgani an mea”), is still accepted as the standard,—no slight testimony to the excellence of their work. And it is no small commendation to the

<sup>1</sup> In his dedication to Q. Elizabeth.

<sup>2</sup> Vicar of Gresford and rector of Caerwys, 1584; Bishop of Bangor, 1585; translated to Chester, 1595. He had been one of the translators of the English Bible.

<sup>3</sup> Vicar of Rhuabon and prebendary of St. Asaph, editor and in part translator of Caradawg's *History of Wales*, annotator upon Giraldus's *Itinerary and Description of Wales*, etc.—*Eminent Welshmen*.

<sup>4</sup> Edmund Price, archdeacon of Merioneth, author of the well known Welsh metrical version of the Psalms.

<sup>5</sup> President of St. John's Hospital, Llanerthyr (Llanerthyr) (?); promoted to the see of Bangor, 1595; Chester, 1597; London, 1604.

authorities of those days that two such distinguished men should in succession have been promoted to the thrones of this diocese ; and a matter of no slight congratulation to the diocese itself, that so many of its members, from William Salesbury and Bishop Davies to Sir Thomas Myddelton and Mr. Rowland Heylin (who went to the chief expense of the first portable edition of the Bible and Prayer Book, a small 8vo, published A.D. 1630), should have borne so conspicuous and honourable a part in so worthy and beneficial a work.

One name, however, mentioned with respect above, has come down to us loaded with an evil reputation, that of Bishop Hughes. "He was accused of misgoverning his diocese, and of tolerating the most disgraceful abuses. When the case was inquired into, it was found that the Bishop held sixteen rich livings *in commendam* ; that most of the great livings were in the possession of persons who lived out of the country ; that one person, that had two of the greatest livings in the diocese, boarded in an ale-house ; and that only three preachers resided upon their livings, viz. Dr. David Powel of Rhuabon, Dr. William Morgan of Llanrhaidr-yn-Mochnant, and the parson of Llanvechan, an aged man about eighty years old."<sup>1</sup>

Now, without wishing for a moment to uphold any known abuse, one cannot help thinking that in this case there has been a considerable misapprehension of facts, and a harder sentence passed than the circumstances really warrant. Upon his promotion to the see, A.D. 1573, he obtained from Archbishop Parker a faculty to hold the archdeaconry, the rectory of Llysfaen, and other benefices to the value of £150 per ann. *in commendam*.<sup>2</sup> On what particular ground this faculty was sought and granted we know not ; but it must have been such as, under the circumstances of the case, was deemed sufficient.

The sixteen livings are evidently made up of all those which

<sup>1</sup> Rees's *History of Nonconformity in Wales*, pp. 4, 5, quoted from Strype's *Annals of the Reformation*, iv, 293, 294 ; and Appendix to vol. iv, p. 63 ; ed. 1725.

<sup>2</sup> "Facultas concessa Doctori Hughes, Episcopo Assavensi, ut cum episcopatu suo archidiac. Assavens. et rectoriam de Llysfaen et alia beneficia ad valorem £150 tenere possit."—Register of the Faculty Office, Lambeth.



*at any time* he had held by virtue of it; but which it is clear, from a comparison of the registers as given in Browne Willis, he could not have held together, and some of which he appears only to have kept for a few months.<sup>1</sup> To the livings so held (taken from Br. Willis, i, 106), have been added below the dates at which another succeeded to them, prefixing an asterisk to such as were sinecures, and italicising those which were at different periods resigned. There appears, indeed, to have been an excessive amount of exchanging; but the result is very different from what the accusation would imply. Of the livings with cure of souls, Llysfaen, in his native county, enjoyed by him since 1567, before his promotion to the bishopric, and Castle Caereinion were the only two held by him throughout his episcopate, except those which all his successors, as archdeacons, felt no compunction in retaining. Of the rest, we must bear in mind that whilst the rectorial or great tithes were not held to be liable to the same obligations of residence and duty as those of the vicar (hence appropriations, impropriations, and sinecures, “*et id genus omne*”), in the present case the sum total was further limited by the amount stated in the faculty. The same remark as to the distinction between the rectorial and vicarial obligations will apply to the statement as to non-residence on “most of the great livings”. Of the paucity of preachers and its cause we have already had occasion to speak, as well as of some share borne by Bishop Hughes in supplying the defect by furthering the translation of the Old Testament Scriptures.

There is a later occasion, too, on which the Bishop's name occurs, which would imply that he was not unmindful of the spiritual interests of his diocese. From the case of *Albany v. the Bishop of St. Asaph*,<sup>2</sup> we learn that he refused to institute a

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<sup>1</sup> Llysfaen - - - 1567...1601	* <i>Llandrillo-yn-Rhos</i> 1582...1589
Castle-Caereinion - 1574...1601	* <i>Llangwm</i> - - - 1584...1592
* <i>Cwm</i> - - - 1574...1592	<i>Mallwyd</i> - - - 1587...1587
<i>Llanycil</i> - - - ? ...1583	* <i>Llanfor</i> - - - 1588...1601
<i>Llandrinio</i> - - - 1577...1594	* <i>Llanrwst</i> - - - 1592...1596
<i>Meifod</i> - - - 1578...1579	* <i>Whitford</i> - - - 1587...1587
<i>Gresford</i> - - - 1579...1584	*Abergele, Bettws, and Disserth, attached to the archdeaconry.

<sup>2</sup> Reported in 1st Leonard, 39, and Crooke, Elizabeth, 119. From the Whittington Registers.



Mr. Bagshaw to the living of Whittington, vacant through the death of Rector Kyffin in 1585, on the plea that he did not understand Welsh sufficiently well to minister therein to the parishioners. This was not, indeed, the plea alleged in the first instance; and so the verdict was given against him. But as a plea it was allowed to be sufficient for not instituting.

His successor, Bishop Morgan, however, was a man of whom the diocese and the country may be justly proud. His name has already become familiar as one of the very few resident preachers in the diocese, and as the translator of the Old Testament into Welsh. Promoted by Queen Elizabeth to the see of Llandaff, A.D. 1595, he was translated to St. Asaph in September 1601; and we have an interesting insight into his independence and uprightness as bishop, in a correspondence published in Yorke's *Royal Tribes of Wales*, between him and Sir John Wynn of Gwydir. The latter presuming upon some kind offices he had rendered to the Bishop, applied to him for a lease of the rectory of Llanrwst. This the Bishop refused to grant on the plea of conscience, "which" (he writes) "assureth me that your request is such, that in granting it I should prove myself an dishonest, unconscionable, and irreligious man; you a sacrilegious robber of my church, a perfidious spoiler of my diocese, and an unnatural hinderer of preachers and good scholars,—the consideration of which would be a continual terror and torment to my conscience."

From the records of a synod held at St. Asaph on the 20th October, 1601, within a month of his translation, we learn what the services usually were on Sundays and week-days at this period, and that it was the custom of the clergy to tax themselves for the support of the proctors in Convocation,—a custom that probably continued so long as Convocation was a reality and an authoritative power in the Church. On this occasion a grant was made, "according to immemorial usage",<sup>1</sup> of a sum of 3*d.* in the pound on all ecclesiastical incomes, rated according to the Book of First Fruits, towards defraying their expenses; and it

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<sup>1</sup> "Secundum antiquam et laudabilem consuetudinem in consimilibus antehac a tempore immemorato usitatam et observatam."

was also enacted that those who failed to attend the election, if not over fifty years of age, should be required to perform the duties of those elected, viz., to preach in their parish churches once at least every three months, and to perform divine service at matins and vespers on Sundays, at matins on Wednesdays and Fridays, and at vespers on Saturdays.

The proctors now elected no doubt represented the diocese in the Convocation of 1603-4, in which the "Constitutions and Canons Ecclesiastical" were drawn up and agreed upon.

## CHAPTER VIII.

## THE COMMONWEALTH.

Origin of Puritanism.—John Penry.—State of the diocese in 1633.—Archbishop Laud.—Bishop Owen.—Abolition of Episcopacy.—Sale of episcopal lands.—Committees of Sequestration and for Propagation of the Gospel in Wales.—Deprivation of the episcopal clergy.—Hardships of their case.—Rise of Quakerism.—The Restoration.—Act of Uniformity.—Its effects.—Analysis of the ejected ministers.—The Five-Mile Act.

THE great politico-religious struggle which in England disturbed the earlier half of the seventeenth century, cannot be said to have materially affected Wales before the middle of its second quarter, though its origin may be traced back to the preceding century. The great object of the English Reformers had been, to correct the errors in doctrine and the abuses in discipline which had crept into the Church during the papal ascendancy of the middle ages, and to restore it, as nearly as possible, to the primitive model. It was not their purpose to found a new Church, but to “strip the old of that meretricious gear in which superstition had arrayed her, and to leave her in that plain and decorous attire with which, in the simple dignity of a matron, she had been adorned by apostolic hands.” But another school sprang up, of foreign growth, and with more radical aims. Some of the Reformers who, during the Marian persecution, had fled for safety to the Continent, came in contact there with opinions and practices adverse alike to the civil and ecclesiastical systems of their own country. Geneva presented her rigid Calvinism, and Germany offered not only the kindred movement of Luther, but also the unchristian and lawless tenets of the early Anabaptists. The influence of Luther and Calvin may best be seen in the revisions which gradually shaped the character of our Liturgy; but whilst the more sober of their followers were con-

ciliated thereby, there remained a considerable number who, deeming that what had been so much abused had best be swept away, and the whole system of the Church be reconstructed *de novo*, coalesced with those whose views of doctrine and polity were opposed to all ideas of Catholicity, and whose natural fruits appeared in the fanaticism of the next century.

The first Welshman, perhaps the only one during the sixteenth century, to imbibe these extreme notions was one John Penry, a young man of Breconshire, who, after giving good promise at the Universities, "did upon some discontent change the course of his life, and became a most notorious Anabaptist (of which party he was in his time the Coryphæus), and in some sort a Brownist, and most bitter enemy to the Church of England of any that appeared in the long reign of Queen Elizabeth."<sup>1</sup> As the animating spirit of a club of writers who issued from a private press a number of libellous tracts, and as the suspected author of the scurrilous *Martin Marprelate*, a warrant was issued by the Privy Council for his apprehension as an enemy to the state; and he was at last executed on a charge of treason-felony, for implied denial of the Queen's authority.

Whilst his execution has been almost universally condemned as an unjust straining of the law, men have formed very different estimates of his character. By some he was looked upon as an author of libels and sedition; but by his friends he has been extolled as a martyr. Of his sincerity, indeed, there can be no doubt. He was evidently deeply persuaded of the truth of his own views, and very earnest in the propagation of them; but unfortunately his views were narrow and bigoted, and he had no consideration for those who differed from him, and occupied a different stand-point. In his denunciation of the clergy he was particularly bitter; and were it not that experience has taught us to apply to the language of heated controversy, especially in the mouth of young reformers, a colour of its own, we should conclude that they were hopelessly depraved. They were called "ungodly" because, forsooth, they did not hold what came unfortunately to be called, and deemed equivalent to, Evangelical, but

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<sup>1</sup> Wood's *Athenæ Oxoniens.*



really meant strong Calvinistic doctrines;<sup>1</sup> “murderers of men’s souls”, as not teaching the truth with the desired Shibboleth; “thieves”, for taking the tithes that should go to those who would so teach it; “dumb dogs” on account of the rarity of sermons, the special difficulties of preaching at that time being ignored, and the frequent performance of the divine offices made by him of little account in the great want of fuller and more direct instruction. Indeed, the faults they were guilty of, were in no slight danger of being overlooked in the revulsion that followed from the wholesale abuse thus heaped upon them; and it was owing, perhaps, as much to the extravagance of such libels as to the severity with which they were repressed in Penry’s case, that we hear little more of the kind for many years.

As to England, at least, we are told that “at the death of James I, the condition of the Church was, to all outward appearance, flourishing as its truest friends could have desired. It was looked upon as the head of the Reformed Churches, honoured by foreign Protestants, and dreaded by the enemies of the Reformation. The world did not contain men of stronger talents, sounder learning, and more exemplary lives, than were to be found among its ministers. Their worth was soon to be tried and proved in the furnace of adversity; and their works have stood, and will continue to stand, the test of time. They had maintained their cause with consummate ability against the Papists on one hand, and the Puritans on the other, and their triumph was as complete as their cause was good. But it is not by reason that such struggles are terminated. A fatal crisis both for the Church and State was drawing on. The danger, from the time when the Puritans commenced their systematic opposition to the Establishment, had been distinctly foreseen and foretold; but the circumstances which brought on the catastrophe were not to be averted by human foresight.”<sup>2</sup>

The antagonistic elements which combined to produce this crisis were of many different kinds, political and religious. In

<sup>1</sup> “Having adopted the extreme opinions of Puritanism, he travelled into Wales, and was the first, as he said, who preached the Gospel publicly to the Welsh, and sowed good seed among his countrymen.”—*Eminent Welshmen*.

<sup>2</sup> Southey’s *Book of the Church*, 7th ed., p. 370.

the State there was the struggle between absolutism, constitutionalism, and republicanism; and in religion there were the rival interests of Romanism, Presbyterianism, and Independency, all eager for the overthrow of the Established Church, and calling upon her to exercise a vigilant eye, and to be prompt in action.

A return made by Bishop Owen to the Archbishop of Canterbury, A.D. 1633, says of this diocese, that "all is exceedingly well, save only that the number and boldness of Romish recusants increased much in many places, and was much encouraged by the superstition and frequent concourse of some of that party to Holywell, otherwise called St. Winifred's Well." And again, in the following year, the Bishop writes that they were "not anywhere troubled with Inconformity, but that he heartily wished that they might be as well acquitted from superstition and profaneness";<sup>1</sup> that is to say, the difficulties he had to contend with arose from without, and not from within. "Inconformity", or neglect of the rubrics and order of the Church by the clergy, did not trouble him; for the Bishop had exercised a watchful care over his diocese, and had shewn by his orders for Welsh sermons in the parish church of St. Asaph, that he was himself ready to take his share of work;<sup>2</sup> but he was much grieved with the growth of the Romish superstition on the one hand, and with the spread of that profaneness or irreverence, on the other, with which the more violent of the Puritans treated the Word of God, and caricatured religion in the language and nomenclature of their every day life.

The definite and active churchmanship that distinguished the primacy of Laud from that of his predecessor, Abbot, had probably much to do with hastening on the course of events. "By steadily enforcing discipline he corrected many of the disorders at which his predecessor had connived; the churches were placed in decent repair, the service was regularly performed, the Lord's Supper reverently administered; they who would not follow the rubric were silenced; and by refusing to ordain any person, except to a cure of souls, the number of Calvinistic lec-

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<sup>1</sup> Lambeth MSS. 943, quoted in Rees' *Nonconformity in Wales*, p. 9.

<sup>2</sup> Br. Willis, Appendix LXI.

turers was diminished, and of those who, being retained as chaplains in the families of private gentlemen, disgraced the Church by conforming to the humours and fancies of their patrons, by their incapacity, or by the irregularity of their lives.”<sup>1</sup> By these proceedings he provoked a large amount of opposition, and was charged by his opponents with a desire to reintroduce Popery,—a charge which, under the circumstances, had an appearance of probability, and was eagerly disseminated; but was in reality very unjust, and had no foundation in fact. His unpopularity was further increased by the harsh and cruel punishment inflicted by the Star Chamber upon Bastwick, Prynne, and Burton, for their atrocious libels upon him; and the whole odium of which he had to bear. And when at last he procured the promulgation of new canons, by which the clergy bound themselves to maintain the doctrine and discipline of the Church of England inviolate against the superstitions of Rome on the one hand, and the machinations of the Puritans on the other, and declared that “monarchy was of divine right”, all the antagonistic elements in Church and State rose together in opposition, and began the attack by impeaching the Bishops for high treason. This was followed up by a Bill for excluding them altogether from the Upper House; and when they protested against the illegality of the proceeding, they were impeached a second time, confined in the Tower, and forced to pay a fine; and lastly, their estates were sequestered and sold.

Bishop Owen, who had deserved so well of this see, was one of the prelates who had to suffer these hardships. He was twice impeached, was imprisoned in the Tower, had to pay a fine of £500, and after seeing the episcopal property sold,<sup>2</sup> and the

<sup>1</sup> *Book of the Church*, Southey, p. 381.

<sup>2</sup> The following schedule of the sale of the lands of the see is taken from Br. Willis, Appendix LX:

May 23rd, 1648.—The manor and lordship of Istervyn, co.

Flint and Denbigh, sold to Humphrey Jones and Henry

Jones for	-	-	-	-	£1254	12	9½
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May 9, 1649.—Two messuages in St. Martin's, co. Salop,

sold to Will. Fell and Jonathan Tiltot for	-	-	195	10	0
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Aug. 22, 1649.—Part of the manour of Wrexham, co. Den-

bigh, sold to James Lloyd for	-	-	-	50	0	0
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cathedral which he had done much to improve desecrated, died at Perthkinsey, in the midst of the troubles, in A.D. 1651. The capitular clergy were the next to suffer; deans and chapters were abolished, their property confiscated, and the venerable cathedrals grossly profaned. At St. Asaph one Miller, a postmaster, who lived in the Bishop's palace, and sold wine and liquors there, stalled his horses and oxen in the cathedral, fed his calves in the throne, and removed the font to his yard, where it was used as a horse-trough. The parish churches fared but little better in the general confusion; some of them being occupied as fortresses, and few escaping some damage or disfigurement. Some of the orders of Parliament relating to them, which were issued at this period, are important, not only as shewing the root-and-branch temper of the authorities, but also as witnessing that many articles of church furniture and ritual, commonly supposed to have been abolished at the Reformation, had still continued in common use, or else been retained as ornaments; and these are further illustrated by many local traditions, and by occasional entries in the parochial registers and account books of the time. In 1641 an order was issued "to deface, demolish, and quite take away, all images, altars and tables turned altarwise, crucifixes, superstitious pictures, monuments, and relics of idolatry, out of all churches and chapels"; a second, that the churchwardens should forthwith remove the Communion Tables from the east end of the church, where they stood altarwise; and take away the rails, and leave the church as before the late innovations.<sup>1</sup> A third followed, "that all crucifixes, pictures of the Trinity, and images of the Virgin Mary, be taken away; that tapers, basins, and candlesticks, be removed from the Communion Tables; and that all bowing at the name of Jesus, or towards the east end, be

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Mar. 25, 1650—The manours of Llandegla, Witherwyn  
(Uwch-terfyn?), and Meliden, with other lordships, man-  
ours, and lands, sold to John Jones and George Twistle-  
ton, Esq., for        -        -        -        -        -        3797 0 0

£5297 2 9½

<sup>1</sup> The Communion Table in Mallwyd, removed on this occasion into the centre of the church, remained in that position until the church was restored a few years ago.



forborne". An order of 1643, for the sale of copes, surplices, etc., in all cathedrals, collegiate and parish churches, was supplemented the next year by an ordinance of Parliament to "remove all images and pictures from all open places whatsoever, and forbidding the use of surplices, superstitious vestments, etc. The cross was not permitted to continue upon any plate or other thing used about the worship of God; and copes, surplices, superstitious vestments, roods, fonts, and organs, were not only to be taken away, but utterly defaced". Whatever palliation there might be for some of these orders, there can be none for the profanity which too often attended their execution,—a specimen of which we have already noticed in this cathedral, but which was trifling compared to the blasphemous impiety exhibited at such places as Yaxley and Lichfield Cathedral.

The Prayer Book next came in for its share of obloquy and suppression. In A.D. 1645 its use was forbidden not only in all places of public worship, but, with strange inconsistency for men who had been so clamorous for toleration, "in any private place or family"; and every one offending herein, for the first offence was to pay £5, for the second £10, and for the third to "suffer a whole year's imprisonment without bail or mainprise". The same ordinance, however, which thus prohibited the Prayer Book, consistently enough enjoined the Directory, the use of which was afterwards enforced by "a fine of forty shillings for every omission"; and a penalty of not less than £5 upon any one who should "deprave it by preaching, writing, or printing".

The reform of the clergy was entrusted to the Assembly of Divines, the great majority of whom were Presbyterians with a few Independents. One of their first measures was to draw up the "Solemn League and Covenant", a Presbyterian oath directed especially against the episcopal clergy, and binding all persons to endeavour, among other things, the extirpation of prelacy; that is, "Church government by archbishops, bishops, their chancellors and commissaries, deans, deans and chapters, archdeacons, and all other ecclesiastical officers depending on that hierarchy"; and that the country clergy everywhere might be reached, Committees of Sequestration were appointed for the different counties.

From the "Act for the better Propagation and Preaching of

the Gospel in Wales",<sup>1</sup> we learn the following particulars as to the powers of the Welsh commissioners. A committee of seventy-two persons was appointed for the thirteen counties (Monmouth included), with power (1) to receive all charges that should be exhibited against any parson, vicar, curate, and schoolmaster, or any other having, or to have, ecclesiastical benefit or promotion; to grant warrants for their attendance, to examine witnesses on oath; and either on the admission of the accused, or the oath of two credible witnesses, to eject the said parson, etc.; allowing, if they saw fit, for his wife and children a sum not exceeding one fifth of the living, etc., out of which he had been ejected; all parish charges, public taxes, and other duties, being first deducted out of the whole". (2.) To grant certificates to such as should be approved by a body of twenty-five ministers of the Gospel, nominated for the purpose, "for preaching as well in settled congregations and parochial charges as in an itinerary course", and for the keeping of schools; and for their support to receive and dispose of all rectories, vicarages, and other ecclesiastical livings, provided that the yearly maintenance of a minister does not exceed £100, and that of a schoolmaster £40. (3.) That no person be henceforth vested in any rectory, vicarage, or ecclesiastical promotion, unless recommended and approved of according to the tenor of this Act, which was to be in force for three years from the 25th of March, 1650. Its operation may be judged from the fact, that among the committee were men who took care not only to sequester, but to secure for themselves a share in, the episcopal lands,—such as Twistleton, the republican governor of Denbigh Castle; and apparently Colonel Jones, the regicide; and that the approvers consisted of Presbyterians, Independents, Antipædobaptists, and three or four episcopally ordained clergymen who had adopted the opinions of one or other of these sects. Heavy charges of immorality and incapacity were, indeed, alleged against the clergy; but without pretending that there may not have been bad cases among them, or assuming that all their opponents were actuated by equally hostile motives, we must

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<sup>1</sup> Preserved in the British Museum, and printed in *History of Nonconformity in Wales*, Note D.

bear in mind the antagonism of the principles at issue, and the wide range covered by these accusations. Thus White, in his *First Century of Scandalous, Malignant Priests*, includes such charges as "bowing at the name of Jesus", "railing in the Communion Table to prevent the profanation of it", "assisting his Majesty", "refusing to contribute to the rebellion", "saying that to alienate the lands of cathedral churches to maintain preaching ministers, is to pervert the will of the dead that gave them"; "preaching against the doctrine that the greatest part of the world should be damned", "asserting the doctrine of universal grace", "refusing to read the Burial Service over children dying unbaptised", "singing the XLIII Psalm, 'Then shall I to the altar go'," etc.

With such judges and such accusations it is no wonder that a vast number were deprived of their benefices; indeed, it is more strange that any should have been left. "In Montgomeryshire, the county where I lived," writes Vavasor Powel, one of the Committee, and therefore a fair representative of their proceedings, "there were eleven or twelve never ejected: so in all other counties,—some more, some less." Let us then take this county as an example. Now as there were in it about forty-five livings, even if we allow as many as ten of them to pluralists, there must have been twice as many ejected as were left in; "some, however, of whom, though deprived of their income, did also sometimes preach, to please some of their old parishioners, who would hear none else preach."<sup>1</sup> The parish registers corroborate this estimate, and even imply a larger one in an indirect way; for however regularly kept before and after the interregnum, but few have that period filled up; whilst a few others, like Llanfair-talhaearn, have entries kept privately during that interval, inserted at a date subsequent to the Restoration; and on whatever theory we attempt to account for the fact, it clearly betrays a very general interruption of the old parochial system.

Among those deprived in this diocese, in addition to the Bishop, Dean, and all the cathedral clergy, we find the names of Humphrey Lloyd, afterwards Dean of St. Asaph and Bishop of

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<sup>1</sup> *Bird in the Cage*, by Vavasor Powell, 1662.



Bangor; John Lloyd, subsequently Archdeacon of Merioneth; J. Meredith, afterwards Warden of All Souls and Provost of Eton, and connected with it by sinecures; Dr. Godfrey Goodman, Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol; and his successor in that see, the learned William Nicholson; Dr. Morley, Bishop of Winchester; Dr. Du Moulin, son of the eminent Protestant writer of that name, and himself an author of some note; and others.

The provisions of the act for the relief of the deprived clergy appear to have been one thing on paper, another in practice, and to have depended more upon the will of the committees than upon the merits of the case. Thus Mr. Davies, the rector of Garthbeibio, was not allowed even to make any defence; Mr. Evans, vicar of Llanasa, though for fourteen years under sequestration, was not able to recover any fifths; and Mr. Langford, vicar of Welshpool, forced to withdraw, with his wife and family, to Merionethshire, and thence to Anglesea, though promised the house and glebe for a year, never received it. Four, however, all in Montgomeryshire, the vicars of Llanbrynmair, Berriew, and Llanrhaiadr, and the rector of Castle Caereinion, appear to have been more fortunate, or less scrupulous, and to have recovered the livings after intervals of from three to ten years.

An illustration of the change, so far as the parishioners in some instances at least were concerned, is furnished to us in "an humble petition of the inhabitants of Guilsfield to the Committee for settling ministers of the Gospel in Wales."<sup>1</sup> It is dated A.D. 1652, and is in painful contrast to the highly coloured pictures paraded about during the bicentenary agitation of 1862. The petitioners complain that since "Mr. Ellis, an able divine, had been sequestered for supposed delinquencies, they had been without Communion, without baptism, visitinge of the sick, or form of a church; the church door being commonly shut on the Lord's Day, as particularly on Easter Day last, and the Sunday following; that the service of God was much decayed, and religion scandalised; and that their sacred rights are not only withheld, but invectives published against such as shall minister them to us,—by ambulatory preachers, who tell us theyr sermons are sufficient

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<sup>1</sup> A certified copy in the Bishop's library.



for salvation, and recompense enough for the tithes we pay, which are exacted of us with all rigour." And this comes from the immediate neighbourhood of Vavasor Powel, the presiding genius in the proceedings against the episcopal clergy; a man of intense devotion to his cause, indefatigable in the spread of his opinions not only in the pulpit, but also by the press (though he tells us that "he would not neglect, for the printing of a thousand books, the preaching of one sermon"), and described by his admirers as "the apostolic"; but to judge from his principles, religious and political, and from his public acts (for I pass over the personal charges brought against him by his opponents, Presbyterian as well as Episcopal, as tending to shew the virulence rather than the merits of the controversy), uncompromising and self-willed. Having begun in theology as an Independent, he afterwards adopted Antipædobaptist views, and so incurred the odium of his former co-religionists; and being in politics a staunch Republican, he drew up a spirited protest against Oliver Cromwell on his assuming the title of Lord Protector; for which he was rewarded with present imprisonment, and the permanent suspicion of that party.

About this time there sprang up, either directly in opposition to, or indirectly in reaction from, the extravagances of the Antipædo- or Ana-baptists, the new sect of Quakers. "Amongst the Anabaptists", writes the Presbyterian Baxter,<sup>1</sup> "was an abundance of young, transported zealots, and a medley of opinionists, who all hasted directly to enthusiasm and subdivisions, and brought forth the horrid sects of Ranters, Seekers, and Quakers, in the land." Curiously but consistently enough they appear to have been most flourishing in the neighbourhood of Welshpool, where Vavasor Powel's interest may be supposed to have been greatest. The most eminent among them were Richard Davies<sup>2</sup> of that town, and Charles and Thomas Lloyd of Dolobran, near

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<sup>1</sup> See Orme's *Life of Baxter*, p. 82.

<sup>2</sup> His autobiography, published under the title, "An Account of the Commencement, Exercises, Services, and Travels, of that ancient Servant of the Lord, Richard Davies; with some Relation of ancient Friends, and of the spreading of Truth in North Wales", has passed through six editions. (*Eminent Welshmen.*)

Meifod. The Quakers were particularly obnoxious to the Puritan ministers not only for their outspoken utterance of their contempt, for they did not hesitate to call them blind guides, hirelings, deceivers, and so forth, but also for their troublesome interference in their religious services, where they would sometimes stand up in the midst of the sermon, and contradict the preacher, and at others would rise up one after another to speak. Besides which they would often refuse to pay their tithes; and for this last offence they were made not seldom to pay the penalty of imprisonment.

The deprived clergy, meanwhile, had to support themselves and their families as best they could: some few were permitted to keep school, others acted as tutors in private families, and others had to turn to manual occupations. Such of them as survived the interregnum were restored to their livings, in cases where the then holders chose to resign rather than subscribe to the Act of Uniformity. This Act has been much abused, as having driven great numbers of ministers (two thousand is the generally asserted number) from their homes and livings because they would not submit to its conditions. Now whether all its provisions were, or were not, such as need, or would have been, enacted in less troublous times (some of them, indeed, were even then opposed by the Bishops, but insisted on by the laity rather as a preservative for the future than by way of retaliation for the past), it deserves to be judged according to the actual circumstances under which, and the temper of the times when, it was passed, rather than by our own abstract ideal, formed under different circumstances, of what it should have been. That *some* common standard of doctrine and order is necessary, to which the ministers at least of a Church should conform, is manifest from the simple idea of it as a visible body, and is exemplified by the practice of almost every Christian denomination. The strictness with which such a standard may need to be enforced must depend upon the special conditions of time, place, parties, and other circumstances. What, then, were the chief provisions of this Act? They were—(1), to exclude from the ministry of the Established Church those who had not been, or were not willing to be, episcopally ordained; (2), to require assent and

consent to the Book of Common Prayer; and (3), to renounce the Solemn League and Covenant.

Now as to the first of these requirements, it must be borne in mind, that many of those whom it affected had never been ordained at all; and most of them, as we Churchmen are bound to believe,<sup>1</sup> defectively, after the Presbyterian, Independent, or Baptist systems; that the second was but a restoration of the Prayer Book to its old position, in which it had been superseded by the Directory, which had itself been imposed under penalty of fine and imprisonment; and that the third was insisted on by the Commons in order to secure the realm from a recurrence of those evils to which its principles as to Church and State were believed directly to tend. That something of retaliation did enter into the measure is very likely true; and that many good and estimable men had to suffer more or less may also be conceded, and conceded with regret. Still the large proportion of those who conformed shews that its conditions were not generally deemed unreasonable; whilst a comparison of numbers between those now ejected, and those who had previously been deprived, speaks highly for the comparative leniency of the present treatment. Moreover, not only is comparison favourable, but the composition of the ejected is still more so; for among them are found a large number who either as Committeemen or Approvers had taken an active part in depriving the episcopal clergy, or else had borne arms against the King, and so could hardly, as honest men, wish to remain where they were, or as reasonable ones complain of their own ejection. Moreover, it had not been a matter of religious scruple whether there should be an Established Church or no, but rather a question as to who should enjoy that vantage-ground; whilst the principles of toleration, as now accepted equally for all, were so little understood in those days, that the extreme Puritans, who had clamoured loudly for it for themselves, had no wish that it should be conceded to the Romanists, nor when in power were they willing to grant it to others; and even the Pilgrim Fathers, those champions of the liberty of conscience, for the sake of which they left home

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<sup>1</sup> Preface to the Ordination Services in the Book of Common Prayer.



and kindred, and gained for themselves, in their new home across the Atlantic, an honourable name for Christian heroism, yet forced those of their body who desired to retain the rites of their old Church to return to England, and punished with branding and mutilation the unhappy Quakers who in their way insisted upon that same liberty for themselves.<sup>1</sup>

So much of the matter in general. We will now descend to particulars. "A list, as complete as it could be made, of the ministers and itinerant preachers in the Principality, who were either silenced after the Restoration, or ejected by the Act of Uniformity", was given in the *History of Protestant Nonconformity in Wales*,<sup>2</sup> published in 1861, and apparently in view of the bicentenary celebration of the following year. It cannot, therefore, be unfair to take this list, and analyse its composition, so far as concerns this diocese. Into the personal merits of the ejected we have no wish to enter. The favourite epithets for them are "saintly", "martyred", "apostolic", "seraphic". We confine ourselves to the principles at issue; and the result we arrive at is this. In that portion of the diocese which lies within the counties of Denbigh, Montgomery, and Salop (the parts of Flint and Merioneth supplying no instance), there were fifteen ejected from ten different places,—four of them being from Denbigh, and two from Wrexham,—and five Itinerants<sup>3</sup> silenced, who were Independents or Baptists, and traversed over some portion or other of it without any fixed charge. Of the fifteen only ten can be regarded as ministers settled in charge of a parish; the remaining five being made up of two schoolmasters, both Independents, the one<sup>4</sup> at Oswestry, and the other at Denbigh "not in orders",<sup>5</sup> and three<sup>6</sup> at Wrexham, described respectively as "a candidate for the ministry", "a strict Congregationalist and high Dissenter", and "an eminent saint and famous preacher". Of the

<sup>1</sup> *The United States of America*, by Hugh Murray, F.R.S.E., vol. i, pp. 199, 226.

<sup>2</sup> Page 140, etc.

<sup>3</sup> Vavasor Powel, Henry Williams of Ysgafell, James Quarrel, Thomas Quarrel, and John Williams.

<sup>4</sup> John Evans.

<sup>5</sup> Richard Jones.

<sup>6</sup> Ambrose Lewis, John Evans, David ap Hugh.



ten, again, three<sup>1</sup> had been active as Approvers; another<sup>2</sup> afterwards conformed; whilst of the remaining six little more is known than the names and the places whence they were ejected, and that two of them were Independents or Congregationalists, as they were called, and a third supposed to be a Baptist.

The vexatious and harassing proceedings which followed on the Five-Mile Act we would gladly pass over in silence, with a sincere regret that some gentler course was not adopted, by which the old wounds might have been healed up; but we are, at the same time, bound in fairness to acknowledge the difficulties of the position. On the one hand a Romanist faction was intriguing for the re-establishment of Popery, and on the other "the remnants of the Republican party were seeking to take advantage of the Dutch war, and throw the kingdom into confusion and anarchy, that they might once more try the experiment of their beloved Commonwealth";<sup>3</sup> and as, rightly or wrongly, the conventicles were suspected of favouring these respective views, the Acts themselves must be regarded as directed at least as much against politics as religion; and they claim as much indulgence, in the case of their victims, as was demanded for the ejection of the malignant (*i. e.* loyal) clergy in behalf of the Propagation Committee. "That while they had not the wisdom to be silent on political questions, the commissioners could hardly be blamed for ejecting them, as the interference of the ministers of religion with politics, in those unsettled times, tended greatly to endanger the peace of the community."<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Rowland Nevett, A.M., of Oswestry; Ambrose Mostyn of Wrexham, and William Jones of Denbigh, chaplain to Governor Twistleton.

<sup>2</sup> Jenkins of Gresford.

<sup>3</sup> Southey's *Book of the Church*, pp. 439, 441.

<sup>4</sup> *History of Protestant Nonconformity in Wales*, p. 89.

## CHAPTER IX.

## FROM THE RESTORATION TO THE REVOLUTION.

Bishops Griffith, Glemham, Barrow.—Union of sinecure rectories to their vicarages.—Bishop Lloyd.—Conferences at Llanfyllin and Oswestry.—Diocesan returns.—Lawsuit concerning the advowson of Llanuwchllyn.—Letters to Archbishop Sancroft illustrative of the state of the diocese.—Synod at St. Asaph A.D. 1683.—Success of his administration.—Petition of the seven Bishops, and their committal to the Tower.—Accession of William and Mary.

THE first bishop after the Restoration was Dr. George Griffith, who appears to have been one of those already alluded to,<sup>1</sup> as, although deprived, still remaining in their parishes and ministering to their old parishioners, for he continued the whole of the time at Llanymynach. Before the wars he had been chaplain to Bishop Owen, and as proctor for the clergy in the Convocation of 1640 he had moved for a new edition of the Welsh Bible. During the ensuing troubles he engaged in controversy, both oral and written, with the leader of the Puritan party. In 1652 he wrote "*A modest Answer to a bold Challenge of an itinerant Preacher, Vavasor Powell*," and receiving a scurrilous reply, he published a rejoinder entitled "*Animadversions on an imperfect Relation in the 'Perfect Diurnall,' containing a Narration of a Disputation between Dr. Griffith and Vavasor Powell, near New Chapel in Montgomeryshire*." After his promotion to the bishopric he took an active part in the last revision of the Prayer Book, and according to Wood, in his *Athenæ Oxonienses*, had "the chief hand in composing the form for "The Public Baptism of such as are of riper years", the necessity of such a service having been rendered imperative by the tenets and practice of the Baptists and Quakers.

Besides the Bishop's name, that of Humphrey Lloyd,<sup>1</sup> as proctor for the clergy, is attached to the *Sealed Book*;<sup>2</sup> in the Act of Uniformity prefixed to which it is provided that the Bishops of Hereford, St. David's, St. Asaph, Bangor, and Llandaff, shall take order that it be truly and exactly translated into the British or Welsh tongue; and that the same being by them, or any three of them at least, viewed, perused, and allowed, be imprinted to such number, at least, so that one of the said books may be had for every cathedral, collegiate, and parish church, and chapel of ease, in the said respective dioceses and places in Wales, where the Welsh is commonly spoken or used, before the 1st May, 1665; and that meanwhile the "Form of Common Prayer", established by Parliament before the making of this Act, shall be used as formerly in such parts where the English tongue is not commonly understood. It was ordered at the same time "that an English copy should also be provided in every such church, to remain in such convenient place that such as understood them might resort at all convenient times to read and peruse the same; and also that such as do not understand the said language may, by comparing both tongues together, the sooner attain to the knowledge of the English tongue." In the work of this translation the Bishop is believed to have had a leading hand, and his *Short Sermons on the Lord's Prayer* prove that he was not only imbued with the spirit of his subject, but well qualified for the task by the plainness and perspicuity of his language. The main work of his episcopate, however, was to restore order and discipline in the diocese, and to restore the church fabrics,—a work rendered imperative by the disorganisation of the late troubles.

His successor, Glemham, the first Englishman appointed since the Reformation, appears to have received his promotion more in consideration of his family connexions, and his losses during the civil wars, than for any fitness or love for his office. He does not appear to have ever resided in the diocese; and after a brief tenure of the dignity he was succeeded by another countryman,

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<sup>1</sup> Restored vicar of Rhuabon and canon of St. Asaph, 1661; dean, 1663; Bishop of Bangor, 1673.

<sup>2</sup> See copy in the Cathedral library.

Dr. Isaac Barrow, Bishop, and for some time Governor, of the Isle of Man,—a worthy prelate, who continued to exhibit in the charge of this see the same zeal and liberality that had distinguished his former episcopate. That for which he more especially deserved well of this diocese was the union of certain sinecure rectories in his patronage, with their vicarages (where the latter were insufficient for the support of the incumbent), and constituting them thenceforth rectories with cure of souls. The following table of “the common and reputed value of all the rectories *sine curâ*, and their respective vicarages, within the diocese”,<sup>1</sup> was evidently drawn up in view of the Act, and is inserted here as a useful record on the subject:

<i>Decan. de Ros :</i>	R.	V.	<i>Dec. de Pola :</i>	R.	V.
*Llanrwst . . .	80	30	Llansantffraid . . .	80	70
Llansannan . . .	70†	25	Pennant . . .	60	25
Llandrillo . . .	90	55	<i>Dec. de Caedewen :</i>		
*Denbigh . . .	50	25	Llandyssil . . .	50	25
Llangwm . . .	40	28	<i>Dec. de Cyfeiliog et Mawddwy :</i>		
<i>Dec. de Moulde et Tegeingle :</i>			*Machynlleth . . .	60	20
Northop . . .	50	90	Llanbrynmair . . .	40	40
Cilcen . . .	50	30	Darowen . . .	30	30
Nannerch . . .	30	30	<i>Dec. de Bromfield :</i>		
Ysceiviog . . .	60	35	Llanarmon . . .	90	40
*Caerwys . . .	30	30	Estyn or Hope . . .	60	45
Cwm . . .	40	40	<i>Dec. de Penllyn :</i>		
Whitford . . .	40	40	Llanfor . . .	80	40
<i>Dec. de Marchia :</i>			Llandrillo . . .	45	30
Llanrhaiadr . . .	150	100	Corwen . . .	80	60

Of these sinecures, special regard being had to income, population, and other circumstances, those of the town parishes of Denbigh, Llanrwst, Caerwys, and Machynlleth, and of the rural parishes of Nannerch and Llandyssil, were consolidated with the vicarages. The same thing was done with one of the compositions of Llansannan; and the vicarage of Llanarmon in Yale was at the same time improved by the addition of the parsonage house and all the glebe lands. By the same Act<sup>2</sup> it was provided that Llanrhaiadr should, from the next vacancy, be appropriated to the dean and chapter for the repairs of the cathedral, in the first instance, and the augmentation of the revenue of the choir; and that meanwhile, until that should be available, the Bishop

\* Market towns.

† In two compositions.

<sup>1</sup> MS. in the Bishop's library.

<sup>2</sup> Br. Willis, Append. LXII.



should resign, for that purpose, his *commendam* of Ysceiviog. This Act was passed in 1678, and was the more commendable and disinterested as the Bishop not only resigned some of his own emoluments, but improved the poor livings in the face of much importunity to bestow the sinecures otherwise, and that, too, on no unworthy objects: for there exist letters both from the King and the Archbishop pleading urgently for one of them for "Joh. Theobaldus Fabricius, a man of very good learning, humble and modest; one that loves our Church well, and hath written a defence of it, and thereby created himself enemies both among our Dissenters here and his own countrymen, who have thereupon divested him of the livelihood he had there before".<sup>1</sup> As the name does not occur anywhere among the rectors, it is probable that no vacancy occurred among those which were not affected by the above Act; whereas the name of Lewis Herault, pastor of the French Church in London, which does occur among his promotions, implies that the Bishop would have helped Fabricius also, if he could have done it without injury to his own diocese. Among the instances of his liberality was the refusal to enrich himself at the expense of his successors by renewing the lease of the manor of Meliden,—a proceeding which called forth from the King a letter of commendation, and a promise that it should thereafter not be in the power of any bishop to make any lease thereof that should continue any longer than his own time".<sup>2</sup> Other instances were, his improvement of the fabric of the cathedral and the palace, the erection of an almshouse for eight poor widows, and its endowment with £8 per annum, and also a legacy of £200 towards a free school, which he had intended, if spared, himself to have built. His epitaph,<sup>3</sup> drawn up by himself, and inscribed upon his tomb, near the west door of the cathedral, has been a subject of much comment on account of a clause which seemed to imply his belief in the efficacy of prayers for the dead; in consequence of which the brass plate containing

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, Append. LXIII.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., Part II.

<sup>3</sup> "Exuviæ Isaaci Assaphensis Episcopi, in manum Domini depositæ in spem letæ Resurrectionis per sola Christi merita. O vos transeuntes in Domum Domini, domum orationis, orate pro conservo vestro, ut inveniat misericordiam in Die Domini."—Br. Willis, i, 121.

it was removed a few years ago, during some alterations in the cathedral.

A well meant but unsuccessful attempt was made by his successor, Bishop Lloyd, to heal the divisions that separated Non-conformists from the Church, and to win them back to its fold by conciliation and argument. The associations of his early and the experiences of his middle life eminently qualified him for the attempt; and if learning, moderation, national sympathy, an appreciation of the religious difficulties, and a jealousy for their common Protestantism, could have availed, the wound might then have been healed. Born in England, but belonging to the old Welsh family of Henblas in Anglesea, he was distinguished, even as a child, for his knowledge of Latin, Greek, and Hebrew. Having matriculated at Oriel College, Oxford, in 1639, when he was only eleven years of age, he gained a scholarship at Jesus the following year, and graduated at the early age of fourteen, as the boy-bachelor, in 1642. During the troubles of the Commonwealth he appears to have been absorbed in his favourite study of the Oriental languages, through which he was brought into intimate friendship with Elias Ashmole, the antiquary and founder of the Museum which bears his name. By Ashmole he was induced to accept, during the interregnum, the family living of Bradfield; which, however, he quickly resigned, and betaking himself to the more congenial work of the pen, he wrote voluminously as well in elucidation of ancient philosophy as in the explanation of the Holy Scriptures, and especially on the application of the prophetic writings; "endeavouring", as Macaulay writes with no little sarcasm, "to extract from Daniel and the Revelations some information about the Pope and the King of France". At the Restoration "commenced an extraordinary shower of preferments, which continued to fall on him for forty years".<sup>1</sup> Some remarkable tracts against Popery, published by him in 1667, led to his promotion to the deanery of Bangor, the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and a chaplaincy to the King. His next book in defence of the Church of England Catholic, the design of which was to distinguish between English Church Catholics (or, as we

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<sup>1</sup> *Lives of the Seven Bishops*, p. 324.

should now say, Anglicans) and Roman Catholics, brought him into still greater prominence and favour; and in 1677 he was appointed principal chaplain to the Princess of Orange, a post of great importance and delicacy, from the probability of her succession to the throne, and from "the open and undisguised hostility of her husband to the Church of England,—a hostility which induced him to do violence to her conscience, by compelling her to desert her own chapel and the English liturgy, to attend the Dutch schismatic service with him".<sup>1</sup> It is to this cause, surely, rather than to her chaplain's persuasion, as Miss Strickland's prejudice against him has induced her elsewhere<sup>2</sup> to suggest, that the attendance of the Princess at a place of worship "where the tenets of the fanatic fatalists called Brownists were prevalent", must be attributed; otherwise he would hardly have been "welcomed, on his return to England, as one of the warmest champions of the Church". His innate dislike of Popery was much increased by the intrigues of that party, at this period, for its restoration as the established religion, and caused him to look with favour upon the Nonconformists as natural allies in the looming struggle between it and Protestantism: hence, on his promotion to this see in 1680, one of his first cares was to try and recover them to the communion of the Church. With this in view he invited to a friendly conference, first, the Quakers at Llanfyllin, and then the Presbyterians at Oswestry; and would have done more had the movement been more successful. An account of the former, written by an ear-witness,<sup>3</sup> was printed, a few years ago, in a provincial paper, which, as it describes an interesting occurrence but little known, deserves the following summary:

"The Bp. haveing desired Mr. Ch. Lloyd and his brother, Mr. Tho. Lloyd,<sup>4</sup> to appear in the Publick Hall at Llanfyllin, and to bring along with him as many more as they thought fitt, to give an account of the reason of their separation from y<sup>e</sup> Church; accordingly they both, and severall others of their friends and party, appeared on Thursday,

<sup>1</sup> *Lives of the Seven Bishops*, p. 245.

<sup>2</sup> P. 326.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Robert Davies, the eminent antiquary, of Llannerch, from whose MSS. it was furnished to *Aris's Birmingham Gazette* of Sept. 13, 1858, by Miss Lloyd of Ty-yn-y-Rhyl, to whom I am indebted for the information.

<sup>4</sup> Of Dolobran, near Meifod. See above, p. 105.



September the 22nd. And y<sup>e</sup> Bishop having desired to know y<sup>e</sup> reasons why they separated from y<sup>e</sup> Church, not onely from y<sup>e</sup> Church of England, but also from y<sup>e</sup> universal Church of Christ, Mr. Charles Lloyd stood up, and made a long speech of his former sufferings, and readiness to suffer again, and some other things. Then Mr. Tho. Lloyd desired the audience to take notice they were not called there for any wicked lewdnesse, but to give an account of their faith towards God ; and then told the Bishop that the reason of their separation from us was because they did not approve of severall things in our worship and ceremonies ; named our Baptisme, Marriage, etc. The Bishop told him he was willing in due time to speak to these things. But first he desired them to give an account why they separated not only from us but from all Christians that are or have been in the world, and indeed from y<sup>e</sup> institution of Christ, by laying aside y<sup>e</sup> use of Sacraments. Upon this began a discourse about Baptisme, which continued a long time : after which followed another about the Lord's Supper, which was broke off by the night, and the conference was adjourned to y<sup>e</sup> next day.

"Friday, Sept. 23, 1681.—The Bishop being come into y<sup>e</sup> Hall, Mr. Charles Lloyd and his company presently appeared, and being seated, the Bishop told them he found great inconvenience in y<sup>e</sup> discourse y<sup>e</sup> day before, by y<sup>e</sup> severall digressions and sallies y<sup>t</sup> were made from the maine discourse, by which y<sup>e</sup> thread of it was often broke, and it could not be easily reassumed ; so y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> same things were often said over again, and nothing concluded. To remedy this he told them he desired all that was said that day might be put in writing, and gave them pen, ink and paper. After some hesitation they accepted of it, and ordered a young man of their party to sit downe and write for them. Then the discourse began. Mr. Lloyd offered to speak against Pædo-Baptisme, and the manner of baptising in our Church. To this the Bishop answered, and desired them and the whole auditory to take notice of it, that he did not decline to speak to those things, but was ready to defend them ag<sup>st</sup> the Anabaptists and the other sects concerned in them. But for them that denyed Baptism in generall it was necessary to discourse of Baptisme itselfe. It was to as little purpose to satisfie them aboute y<sup>e</sup> ceremonies of Baptisme, while they denyed the substance of it, as it would have been to be diligent in pulling out a thorne out of a man's foote who had a mortall wound in his head. Upon this they offered something ag<sup>st</sup> Baptisme itself, and would have proposed some theses. But after some tyme had been spent ab<sup>t</sup> these things, and the matter could not be brought to a regular conference, at last this question was proposed to them, viz., Whether is it possible to become members of Christ without water Baptisme ?

"Tho. Lloyd holds this question in y<sup>e</sup> affirmative, and being offered his choice of being opponent or respondent, he chose y<sup>e</sup> opponent's part."

The discussion is then carried on in a series of syllogisms



formed after the dry but crucial model of scholastic disputation, at the close of which—

“Then Mr. Dean of Bangor<sup>1</sup> told Mr. Thos. Lloyd, you have hitherto acted the part of the opponent, and have binn patiently heard, and yett could not, as we conceive, by any of those arguments you used, prove that it is possible to become members of Christ without water Baptisme. You have tried 3 topicks, and did not bring either of them to the conclusion you designed. And now, if you please, I will also take upon me the opponent's part, and prove to you that Baptisme is ordinarily necessary to salvation. Then Tho. Lloyd, haveing admitted the Dean as opponent, and made himselfe respondent”, the argumentation proceeds on the same method as before, turning more directly on the interpretation of St. John iii, 5. When this was done, “the Dean desired he might read to them what the Bp. had writt of the conference, and did so. Tho. Lloyd acknowledged y<sup>t</sup> it was candidly done. And so ended y<sup>t</sup> day's conference on that subject.”

Though the balance of argument was much in favour of the episcopal party, conviction was not produced in the minds of the Quakers, and the conference does not appear to have been renewed; but on the following Tuesday, Sept. 27, another conference was held in the Town Hall at Oswestry with the Presbyterians, the details of which are more generally known.<sup>2</sup> The Bishop was attended, on both occasions, by “the pious and learned Mr. Henry Dodwel”;<sup>3</sup> the Presbyterians were represented by Mr. James Owen of Oswestry (one of the most considerable Non-conformist ministers in the diocese), Mr. Philip Henry,<sup>4</sup> and Mr. Jonathan Roberts of Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd:

“The discourse began about two o'clock in the afternoon, and continued till between eight and nine at night. Much was said *pro* and *con*, touching the identity of bishops and presbyters, the bishoping and unbishoping of Timothy and Titus, the validity of Presbyterian

<sup>1</sup> Humphrey Humphreys, B.D., promoted to the bishopric of Bangor in 1689, and translated to Hereford in 1701; an able Welsh antiquary, and author of some memoirs of eminent Welshmen, in addition to those contained in Wood's *Athenæ Oxonienses* (last edition) and the first volume of the *Cambrian Register* for 1795.

<sup>2</sup> See *Philip Henry's Life* by Sir J. B. Williams.

<sup>3</sup> To whom, in conjunction with Dr. Stillingfleet, Dean of St. Paul's, he dedicated his *Historical Account of Church Government as it was in Great Britain and Ireland when they first received the Christian Religion*. London, 1684.

<sup>4</sup> Of Worthenbury, father of the eminent Matthew Henry.

ordination, etc. It was managed with a great deal of liberty, and not under the strict laws of disputation, which made it hard to give any tolerable account of the particulars of it. The arguments on both the sides may better be fetched from books written on the subject<sup>1</sup> than from such a discourse. The Bishop managed his part of the conference with a great deal of gravity, calmness, and evenness of spirit, and therein gave an excellent pattern to all that are in such stations."<sup>2</sup>

It is added that,—

"Although he did not succeed in convincing his nonconforming brethren, he ever after held them in the highest estimation, often corresponding with the amiable Philip Henry; and imparting to Mr. Owen, in 1689, the secret of the Prince of Orange's invitation to England, and his hope that the Protestant Dissenters would concur in promoting the common interest."

In the administration of the diocese Bishop Lloyd displayed the same watchful care, the same zeal for its spiritual and temporal interests, that prompted the above attempts to win back the Nonconformists to its fold. He appears to have set himself at once to procure full and accurate information about the parishes in his diocese; and the earliest statistics of any importance relating to them, date from the second year of his episcopate. The manuscript book labelled Z,<sup>3</sup> begun by Bishop Tanner, but incorrectly entitled "Bishop Maddox's Book", is based upon returns made in 1681, to which additions have periodically been made to the year 1745. These give, more or less fully, the names of the townships, with the number of families, and sometimes of souls in them; the value and appropriation of the tithes, with memoranda of moduses and dues; an abstract of terriers; the dedication of the church, with notices of the services and the charities; of all of which it is proposed to make a large use, and

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Owen published, in 1694, the arguments in favour of his view, under the title of *A Plea for Scripture Ordination, or Ten Arguments from Scripture and Antiquity, proving Ordination by Presbyters, without Bishops, to be valid*; to which, in the same year, an able and learned *Answer* was written by the Rev. John Thomas, A.M., rector of Penegoes; but it was not published until after the appearance of a second edition of *The Plea, with an Epistle prefixed by the Rev. Daniel Williams*, in 1707; the *Answer* being edited by the Rev. Dr. George Hickes, 1711.

<sup>2</sup> From *P. Henry's Life*, by Sir J. B. Williams.

<sup>3</sup> In the Bishop's library.

to embody the substance, when giving the history of the several parishes.

In 1683 he engaged in a troublesome and expensive lawsuit, with a view to recover to the see the advowson of Llanuwchllyn, which the Prices of Gilar claimed as having been granted, on the dissolution of Cymmer Abbey, to their ancestor, Ellis Price, chancellor of the diocese, and commissary-general under Lord Cromwell.<sup>1</sup> Bishop Lloyd, on the other hand, pleaded that it never had belonged to Cymmer or any other foundation, and attributed its impropriation to an act of collusion. In the trial, held at Shrewsbury, and transferred by consent to the Exchequer, a verdict as to *right* was given for the Bishop; but *possession* being pleaded, another trial was held, also at Shrewsbury; and there, too, the verdict was in his favour. But the impropiator still disputing the issue, had it tried again at Bala, at a time when the Bishop was precluded from attending in person, and had entered a protest against it; and this time the former decisions were reversed, and the verdict given against him. Deterred, probably, by the great expense attending it, or perhaps owing to his translation to another diocese, the Bishop did not reopen the question, and so the rectory continued impropriate; but its recovery, as we shall see, was the favourite plea of his successor for his iniquitous proceedings in appropriating to himself the profits of vacant livings.

Some letters<sup>2</sup> written by him to Archbishop Sancroft throw much light upon the history of the diocese during this time, the difficulties he had to encounter, and the way he overcame them. May 4, 1683, he writes:

"There is a nephew of my predecessor, one Mr. Thomas Clopton,<sup>3</sup> whom his uncle preferred as well as he could in this diocese, from the time of his entering into orders, which was but three or four years before his uncle's death; that is, he gave him a prebend of about £20 per annum; two sinecures, worth each of them about £60 per annum; and a rectory, with cure of souls, of about £100 per annum.

"This rectory is called Castle, which lies in Montgomeryshire, not

<sup>1</sup> Sup. 77.

<sup>2</sup> In *Lives of the Seven Bishops*, by Miss Strickland, from the Tanner MSS.

<sup>3</sup> "Schoolmaster of Oswestry, 1672; rector of Kilken, 1673; canon, 1675; rector of Llanrwst, 1677; prebendary of Myfod, 1678."—Br. Willis, i, 266.



far out of England, and yet not a third part of the people understands any English ; and though Mr. Clopton, to qualify himself for it, made his uncle believe he had learned Welsh (and he did indeed learn so far as to read a Welsh sermon once in a parish church, that he might be able to say he had preached in Welsh ; but he read it so that none that heard him could understand anything in it no more than himself), he came thither, and still continues unable to perform any church office in the Welsh language. The people were very much discontented at this, as they had cause ; and they sent me their complaint of it at my first coming into the diocese. Thereupon I desired him, as soon as I saw him, to learn their language, and to make himself useful in his cure. He promised he would do what he could ; but said he found it so difficult that he would take it for a very great favour if I would save him the trouble by finding him a living of £200 a year or better in England ; for which, with many thanks, he would resign all he had in this diocese. I promised him I would endeavour to do it ; and lately it has pleased God to give me an opportunity beyond his or my expectation.

“Dr. Pell, the mathematician, had the next advowson of Malpas given him by the Lord Brereton, who was the patron of it ; and hearing of the death of Mr. Bridge, the last incumbent, the Doctor sent me an earnest request that I would find him a sinecure of £100 a year or better, that he might have in exchange for the living of Malpas, which is worth above £300. I presently acquainted Mr. Clopton with it, who gladly embraced the condition, and desired me to bring it to effect. I told him that when he parted with his sinecures to Dr. Pell, he must not think to make a sinecure of Castle. He was content to part with that also, and desired to keep nothing but his prebend, which I willingly allowed. Thereupon I got him Dr. Pell’s presentation, which he has now in his hands. But since I hear, and have reason to suspect, that he intends privately to get a dispensation, and so to hold Castle with Malpas. Such would be a great dishonesty in him, and a defeating of my design, which is truly for the service of the Church. I therefore write this to prevent him, and make it my humble suit to your Grace that he may have no dispensation. If your Grace will be pleased to lay aside this letter for him, in case he should come for a dispensation, I humbly desire that this may be given him for his answer.”<sup>1</sup>

Dec. 27, 1685, he writes of other difficulties :

“I have here enclosed sent your Grace an account of my ordinations at the last of the four times. You will see all things else according to your Grace’s injunctions, except the ordination of one Mr. Maesmore, an undergraduate, whom I ordained deacon about three years ago, and now priest. He is exceedingly improved in learning and

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<sup>1</sup> Clopton remained at Castle till 1688, when he resigned it and his prebend in exchange for the rectory of Christleton in Chester diocese.



knowledge within this time, and a pious, sober man, but so poor that he had not wherewith to pay his ordinary fees. I preferred him from Mwyn-Glawdd<sup>1</sup> Chapel, in Wrexham parish, where he had £7 ill paid, to Meliden, where now he will have £10 a year. But he must do half a year's service before he will receive anything. And there has not been a Sacrament there since Whitsuntide last, for want of a priest in that cure; nor would have been now at Christmas, if I had not ordained him. But I was fain to ordain him without your Grace's dispensation; for though I would have been at the charge of sending for it, I had not time. The poor man did not offer himself to be ordained because he could not be at the charge. But when I heard that that church wanted Sacraments, and I knew that there was not a priest to spare in the diocese, I sent for him to be examined when it was too late to send for a dispensation. I beg your Grace's pardon for this; for though what I did was not against any law, it was against an article<sup>2</sup> which, upon your Grace's proposal, I agreed to, though I had before objected to it as being likely to perplex the Welsh bishops and those others that are far distant from London, and have very poor cures to provide for. I humbly propose, for their sakes, that your Grace would be pleased to interpret the word dispensation, that it may be in writing under your hand, without the affixing of any seal, that it may be the sooner dispatched, and without charge to the persons concerned in it."<sup>3</sup>

Again, at a later period of his episcopate, he writes on the same subject:

"I must crave leave to remind your Grace that I excepted against the restraint from ordaining them that are not graduates in the university, as being not practicable in our Welsh dioceses.<sup>4</sup> We have a great many more cures of souls than we have graduates in this country; and as most of the people understand nothing but Welsh, we cannot supply the cures with any other but Welshmen. But yet of those whom I have ordained, the graduates have not been always the best scholars. I have more than once seen them shamefully outdone by men that never saw the university. And I never ordained any but them that could perform the exercise required by the thirty-fourth canon of the Synod in 1603.

"For the state of the Church in North Wales," he adds, "I bless God I do not know any reason we have to complain. I am well assured

<sup>1</sup> Minera.

<sup>2</sup> The third of the "Articles for the Regulation of Admissions to Holy Orders", agreed upon in the Convocation of Canterbury, 20th May, 1685.—Wilkins' *Concilia*, iv, 612.

<sup>3</sup> Tanner, xxxi, 242; Strickland, 340.

<sup>4</sup> In the signatures attached to the above articles (Wilkins' *Concilia*, iv, 614), "W. Asaph" is not in a column with the rest, but stands apart by itself.

that in these six counties there are not six persons fewer in the communion of our Church than there were in the beginning of his Majesty's reign. And for them that are in the Church communion, who are the generality of our people, I thank God I do not find that they grow worse. I hope they rather grow better ; and that which is my greatest comfort, I do not know of one scandalous churchman in this diocese."<sup>1</sup>

This high character of the diocese, which we shall presently find more than corroborated by other testimony, is mainly due to his watchful administration, a patent evidence of which is supplied by "certain orders treated and agreed upon by the Right Reverend Father in God, William Lord Bishop of St. Asaph, and the whole clergy of his diocese, at a synod begun at St. Asaph the fourth day of July anno Domini MDCLXXXIII."<sup>2</sup> These orders "for the more decent and orderly administration of the holy offices," and for the due performance of other ecclesiastical duties, are ranged under nine heads, and are both valuable and interesting for the full and admirable directions they give. They relate to—I, the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper ; II, Baptism ; III, Burial ; IV, Excommunication and Absolution ; V, the Observation of the Lord's Day ; VI, the admitting and swearing of Wardens ; VII, the Residence of the clergy ; VIII, Terriers ; IX, Gifts to charitable uses.

The following extract from "IV, Of Excommunication and Absolution", shews the strictness of the discipline enjoined and the mode of its exercise. When private means have failed, and the case be such as to necessitate extreme measures, it is ordered that

"When any person is decreed to be excommunicate for any criminal cause, there shall be three Sundays allowed for his denunciation, as follows :

"On the first Sunday there shall be read by the minister of the parish, after the Nicene Creed, the first form prescribed, to desire the prayers of the congregation for that person, to implore the grace and mercy of God to bring him to repentance.

"On the second Sunday there shall be read by the minister of the parish the second form prescribed, which shall also be read in the parish church of every parish adjoining to that in which the said person liveth. Then the minister shall ask if there be any present who

<sup>1</sup> Tanner, xxx, 124 ; Strickland, 333.

<sup>2</sup> Wilkins' *Concilia*, iv, 608, "Ex MS. penes Tho. Episc. Assaven.," which latter has the signatures attached.

can show any reasonable cause why the denunciation ought to be further delayed than the next Lord's Day? If any person answers and says he hath such cause, the minister shall admonish him to shew it to the bishop within that week.

"On the third Sunday, if there be no cause alleged to the contrary, there shall be read by the said minister, and also in every neighbouring parish, as aforesaid, and the church of the next market town, the third form which is prescribed for denunciation; and then also there shall be a sermon preached in the said parish church by the minister whom the bishop shall appoint for that purpose.

"Whosoever is thus excommunicate, is to be denounced again once every quarter in his parish church, and the church of the next market town, and the neighbouring parish, and the cathedral.

"When any clergyman is excommunicated, and does not submit within one month, he shall be denounced excommunicate in every church in the diocese; and a roll of the name of such, if any be, shall be published once a year in the cathedral and every parish church and chapel within the diocese.

"The minister of every parish is to keep a book by him both of excommunications and absolution, that he may know who are, and who are not, in church communion among his parishioners. If one under excommunication remove out of the parish, notice must be given by the minister to the bishop if he go into another diocese, or to the minister if into another parish in the diocese."

The minister of the parish was to perform all absolutions in criminal causes, except where the bishop reserved them to himself; and in cases of penance, to give a certificate of its performance.

"That as often as it shall appear to the minister that any penitent hath any eminent change wrought in him, especially if it be such as may be of great and useful example to others in the like case, he shall immediately after the Nicene Creed stir up the people to render due thanks to Almighty God in a form prescribed for that purpose, to be read after the Nicene Creed, as aforesaid."

These orders were agreed to by representatives of the clergy from every part of the diocese, and appear to have received the approval of no less a man than Philip Henry among the Non-conformists.<sup>1</sup> The best commentary, however, upon them as well as upon his whole episcopate, is furnished by an account of the diocese at the accession of Bishop Jones, written by one well competent to judge.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Life, by Sir J. B. Williams.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Wynne, B.D., chancellor of the diocese and vicar of Gresford.



"Perhaps no bishop ever took possession of his see with more advantage than his Lordship, for the diocese had undergone, in all respects, the strictest regulation under the care and government of the present Bishop of Worcester<sup>1</sup> for the space of twelve years; the clergy were under exact discipline, the several parishes furnished with painful and deserving pastors, the revenues of the bishopric increased, and the rights of the Church everywhere recovered and settled."<sup>2</sup>

Bishop Lloyd's name, as one of the Seven Bishops whom James II committed to the Tower in 1688, is a household word; his companions were Sancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, Lake Bishop of Chichester, White of Peterborough, Turner of Ely, Ken of Bath and Wells, and Trelawney of Bristol. Their conscientious and patriotic resistance to the unconstitutional attempt of the King to abrogate the penal laws by his personal authority, forms a memorable epoch in the history of our national liberties. In the famous Petition in which they prayed to be excused from reading or causing the "Act for liberty of conscience" to be read in their respective dioceses, he had a chief hand, and acted as the substitute of the aged Primate in presenting it to the King. The story of their trial and acquittal, and of the universal joy with which it was hailed, has been told too often and too eloquently to need repeating here. His innate dread of Popery, increased by his experience of the intrigues of James and the Jesuits for its re-establishment,—a dread intensified in his later years to such a degree as to become a kind of craze or monomania,<sup>3</sup> led him subsequently to welcome, and it would seem to help in bringing about, the accession of William and Mary. At the same time his respect for some of the Nonconformists, dating from his early days at Oxford, and displayed consistently throughout his life,—a respect that made him sympathise to a considerable extent with their difficulties, and ever anxious to recover them to the Church; but which never led him to sacrifice, for

<sup>1</sup> Bishop Lloyd was translated to Lichfield and Coventry in 1692, and in 1699 to Worcester.

<sup>2</sup> *A short Narrative of the Proceedings against the Bishop of St. Asaph.* London, 1702, p. 1.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. Macaulay, *Hist. of England*, ii, 346; Parnell, in *Faction Displayed*; and Swift in his *Journal to Stella*; Strickland's *Seven Bishops*.



the sake of union, those principles of which he was so loyal and steadfast a champion,—this sympathy and respect enabled him to acquiesce in measures that the majority of his protesting colleagues, and not a few of his clergy, refused to accept. His translation to Lichfield and Coventry in 1699 removed from this diocese one of the most learned, laborious, and successful bishops that ever occupied the see of St. Asaph.

## CHAPTER X.

## EFFECTS OF THE REVOLUTION.

The Non-Jurors.—Ecclesiastical policy of William.—Bishop Jones, his offences and deprivation.—Bishop Beveridge.—Queen Anne's Bounty.—Bishop Fleetwood.—Abolition of mortuaries.—Dissatisfaction of the Welsh clergy.—Dr. Sacheverell.—Summary of the Reports of Rural Deans for 1729 and 1749.

THE refusal of the Non-Jurors to take the oath of allegiance to William and Mary, and transfer to them the fealty they had sworn to James, was met by William in a very summary way,—a way that estranged the clergy widely from him, and proved highly injurious to the best interests of the Church. He deprived them of their sees<sup>1</sup> and livings, which he filled with his own friends and political sympathisers. The Toleration Act, too, had been distasteful to them, because it ignored, and called upon them also to ignore, those points of doctrine and ecclesiastical order by which they were distinguished from Independents, Baptists, and Presbyterians; and they gave vent to their dissatisfaction, not obscurely, in the Lower House of Convocation, which was much more independent and outspoken than the Upper House; and to silence which William adopted the course of repeatedly proroguing it. Indeed, it is to this process of schooling the clergy, and making henceforth political support a condition of promotion, that we must attribute, I think, more than to any-

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<sup>1</sup> Among these was another William Lloyd, Bishop of Norwich, a native of Llangower, and some time rector of Efenechtyd in this diocese. Among the laity who suffered for adhesion to James was the Marquis of Powis, who was outlawed for high treason; and an unexpired lease of a portion of the tithes of Meifod, Pool, Guilsfield, and Buttington, which he enjoyed, was transferred to Edward (Jones) Bishop of St. Asaph, and William (Lloyd) Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield.

thing else, that lowering of the spiritual life of the Church into a sort of moral engine of the State, and the comparative lifelessness and spiritual apathy which marked so painfully the last century.

In its immediate effect on our own diocese this process proved very disastrous; for one to whom the clergy looked as best fitted, both by his own merits and by their confidence, to succeed Bishop Lloyd on his promotion to Lichfield and Coventry in 1692, was passed over because he had opposed the measures of Dr., now Archbishop Tennison in the Convocation of 1689; and Dr. Edward Jones, a native of Montgomeryshire, was translated hither from Cloyne in Ireland. It has been recorded on the best authority that "perhaps no bishop ever took possession of his see with more advantage than he did; for the diocese had undergone, in all respects, the strictest regulation under the care and government of Bishop Lloyd for the space of twelve years; the clergy were under exact discipline, the several parishes furnished with painful and deserving pastors, the revenues of the bishopric increased, and the rights of the Church everywhere recovered and settled. Nay, Bishop Lloyd had been so communicative to his successor that he informed him of the whole state of the diocese, and gave him the exact character of every clergyman in it, and how every person was qualified for his Lordship's future favours, so that he had a perfect view of his diocese before ever he saw it."<sup>1</sup>

The contrast, however, between the two administrations was sad and painful in the extreme. That of Bishop Jones was marked by so much corruption, negligence, and oppression, that in 1697 an address, signed by thirty-eight of the principal beneficed clergy, was sent to the Archbishop representing their complaints under no less than thirty-four heads, and praying for an inquiry. These charges the Bishop was summoned to answer on the 20th July, 1698. By his own confession he had been guilty of gross neglect of ecclesiastical discipline, not only in not punishing a case of known drunkenness, but even in promoting

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<sup>1</sup> *A short Narrative of the Proceedings against the Bishop of St. Asaph.* See above, pp. 123, 124.



to a canonry one who had been accused to him of crimes and excesses; he had permitted laymen to perform the office of curates at Abergele and Llandrillo; he had been guilty of a simoniacal contract in the disposal of some of his preferments, and had allowed his wife to receive money, by way of earnest, for certain promotions. Besides which, he had been in the habit of appropriating to himself a year's profits of vacant livings, on the plea of carrying on the lawsuit for the recovery of the advowson of Llanuwchllyn,—a plea, it is almost needless to add, never put into practice. The Archbishop's sentence, pronounced in June 1701, after much procrastination, was that the Bishop be suspended from his episcopal office, administration, and emoluments, for the space of six months, "et ultra donec satisfecerit".<sup>1</sup> We may remark that this punishment appears very slight compared with the number and heinousness of his offences; and it remains only to add, in justice to the clergy in general, that those who fell in with his iniquitous proceedings were some of the Literates whom he had himself ordained, being much more lax on that point than his predecessors had been; and in very favourable contrast to whom stands out the conduct of those who discharged the painful and humiliating duty of demanding the inquiry, and thus relieving the diocese of so sad a scandal. A brief period of restitution intervened between the expiration of his sentence and his death, which occurred soon after the accession of Queen Anne.

The next bishop was Dr. George Hooper, Dean of Canterbury, who had formerly succeeded Bishop (then Dr.) Lloyd as chaplain to the Princess of Orange at the Hague. Hooper being offered the see of Bath and Wells within six months after his consecration, declined it at first out of regard for his old and dear friend, Dr. Ken, who had been deprived as a Non-Juror; but he was afterwards induced to accept it at the urgent request of Ken himself, who looked upon him as one that would "zealously contend for 'the faith once delivered to the saints', which in those latitudinarian times was in great danger to be lost; and who had also another wish, for the good of this diocese, that

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<sup>1</sup> *A short Narrative, etc.*, Appendix III.

Dr. Edwards<sup>1</sup> might succeed him here.”<sup>2</sup> Good Bishop Ken’s wish, however, was not gratified; and the vacant bishopric was again conferred upon a royal chaplain, the pious and learned Beveridge, who, like his predecessor, had refused the see of Bath and Wells, because, as he declared, he would not eat the bread of Dr. Ken. He inaugurated his episcopate by reviving the custom of public catechising, which had of late fallen into neglect; and with a view to promoting its efficiency, he drew up and published, for the use of his clergy, his *Plain and Easy Exposition of the Church Catechism*.

It was at this time that, in consideration of the insufficient maintenance of the poor clergy, the Queen granted the first-fruits for their better support, and established the fund thence known as “Queen Anne’s Bounty.” These first-fruits or “annates”<sup>3</sup> were the profits of one year of every vacant bishopric in England, claimed at first by the Pope upon a pretence of defending the Christians from the Infidels, and paid by every bishop at his succession, before he could receive his investiture from Rome. Afterwards the Pope prevailed on all those who were spiritual patrons to oblige their clerks to pay these “annates”, and so by degrees they became payable by the clergy in general. In the 26th Henry VIII a statute was passed that these payments should be made to the King; and since then, except during the reign of Queen Mary, they had been paid into the exchequer. Vicarages, however, not exceeding £10 per ann., and parsonages not exceeding ten merces, according to the valuation in the First-Fruits Office, were exempted from this payment, for the reason that when this valuation was made vicarages had a large revenue arising from voluntary oblations, which ceased upon the Dissolution. The Act constituting this new fund, and the corporation for its management, ordered “that writs of in-

<sup>1</sup> No doubt this was Dr. Jonathan Edwards, Principal of Jesus College, Oxford, author of *A Preservative against Socinianism; showing the direct and plain Opposition between it and the Religion revealed by God in the Holy Scripture*. 4to, Oxon, in two Parts, 1693.

<sup>2</sup> Ken’s letter of congratulation to Bishop Hooper in Strickland’s *Lives of the Seven Bishops*, p. 305.

<sup>3</sup> Hook’s *Church Dictionary*.

quiry should be directed to three or more persons to inquire upon oath into the value of the maintenance of poor parsons who have not £80 per ann., and the distance of their churches from London, and which of them are in market or corporate towns or not, and how the churches are supplied, and if the incumbents have more than one living; that care may be taken to increase their maintenance". A valuation was accordingly made for this diocese, in 1707, "of ecclesiastical benefices with cure of souls, not exceeding the yearly value of £50"; from which it would appear either that the poor livings were so numerous that the Bounty could only be applied in aid of those which did not exceed that sum; or else that £80 being fixed as the standard for the towns, it was only possible to attain the lower standard for the country parishes; and even here it was available only at intervals, the grants being distributed by the simple but indiscriminating process of casting lots. Still, the aggregate of the grants so made amounts to a very considerable sum, and has been of very material benefit to our poorer mountainous parishes.

Another measure that proved of great relief to the clergy was the Act for the Abolition of Mortuaries, procured by Bishop Fleetwood and Dean Stanley in 1712. "Mortuary",<sup>1</sup> in ecclesiastical law, is a gift left by a man at his death to his parish church, in recompense of personal tithes omitted to be paid in his lifetime; or that beast or other cattle which, after the death of the owner, by the custom of the place, is due to the parson or vicar in lieu of tithes or offerings forgotten, or not well and truly paid by him that is dead. This mortuary was usually brought with the corpse when it came to be buried, and offered as a satisfaction for the supposed negligence or omission.<sup>2</sup> By the 26th Henry VIII it was commuted into a money payment. In the Welsh dioceses and one archdeaconry of Chester it was further customary for the bishops to receive mortuaries of priests, and these were exempted from the above Act". From an account exhibited in

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<sup>1</sup> Hook's *Church Dictionary*.

<sup>2</sup> This I conceive to be the real origin of our funeral offerings, viz. to make restitution for the past rather than to provide prayers for the repose of the departed soul, as is sometimes asserted; though, of course, after the introduction of the belief in Purgatory, both reasons would be equally applicable.



Queen Elizabeth's time<sup>1</sup> it appears that the mortuaries due to the Bishop of St. Asaph on the death of every beneficed clergyman in his diocese included "his best gelding, horse or mare, his best gown, his best cloak, his best coat, jerkin, doublet and breeches, his hose or nether stockings, shoes and garters, his waistcoat, hat and cap, his faulchion, his best book and surplice, his purse and girdell, his knife and gloves, and his signet or ring of gold".

So long as celibacy was the rule these dues were reasonable enough; but after the clergy were allowed to marry, they sometimes proved a vexatious burden to the widows and families; and were, after all, of very inconsiderable value. Indeed, Bishop Fleetwood never above once or twice took them in kind, forgiving the poor widows, and compounding with the rich, and applying the money he took of them towards buying books for the new library he caused to be made over the school".<sup>2</sup> The Act, therefore, for their abolition, and for the appropriation, in their stead, of the first sinecure rectory in the Bishop's patronage that should fall vacant, was welcomed by the clergy as a general boon; and as the first sinecure so available happened to be Northop, the exchange proved to be of very material advantage also to the Bishop. His Charge for 1710, which was very explicit on the duties of the clergy, wardens, and people, and has been described as "an admirable epitome of the discipline of the Church", was, contrary to the usual custom, printed and sent round to the clergy some time before his visitation. From it we further learn that there were two abuses which he set himself resolutely to correct, viz. the non-residence of "some rectors who thought themselves at liberty to absent themselves because not tied by oath to canonical residence as vicars were", but which he declared to be contrary to the Act of 21 Henry VIII; and the disuse, in some places, of a weekly sermon for one every fortnight or three weeks". Insisting that "there must be a sermon every Lord's Day throughout", he left it to the discretion of the minister

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<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, Appendix LXIV.

<sup>2</sup> This building was on the north wall of the chancel of the cathedral, and was taken down in 1780.



whether it should be in English or Welsh; but added his disapproval of the conduct of those who gave an English one to favour one or two families in the parish, when the rest were Welsh”.

With his Charge he also sent a request to the clergy that they would supply him at his visitation with a short account of their parish and church, its dedication, wakes, monuments, superstitious usages, townships, tithes, and tithe-holders. He was himself a zealous antiquary, and did much to elucidate the history of the diocese. Many pages of the transcript of *Llyfr Cŏch Asaph*, in the episcopal library, are in his handwriting; so also are numerous notes and transcripts in an interleaved copy of Wharton's *Historia de Episcopis Assavensibus* in the cathedral library, and Browne Willis, to whom we are so much indebted for his valuable Survey, records that “he was very communicative in imparting to him many collections”.

As a bishop, however, though much respected for his learning and zeal, he was never popular with his clergy, whose sympathies lay rather with the High Churchmanship of the earlier than with the Latitudinarianism of the last and present Stuart reigns; and whose national feelings chafed under a sense of wrong in the most sacred of associations, in being systematically ignored for the highest preferments in their Church, and subjected to prelates who, however personally amiable and good and learned, yet were opposed to them in sentiment, and altogether unable to perform the only part of their episcopal office in which they were brought into direct contact with their people, in the only language understood of them.

A striking illustration of the state of the public feeling on ecclesiastical questions was supplied about this time by the interest with which the famous trial of Dr. Sacheverell was watched, and by the ovation with which he was greeted on his journey from London in 1709, at the expiration of his sentence, to take possession of Selattyn, to which he had been presented by his old pupil, Mr. Robert Lloyd, the patron. Sacheverell, who was an ardent Jacobite, had, in a sermon preached before the lord mayor, “maintained the doctrine of passive obedience, spoken slightly of the ministry of the day, condemned, not obscurely, the events of the revolution of 1688, and declared the Church to

be in danger. For this he was impeached by the Commons, condemned to two years suspension from his office, and his sermon burnt by the common hangman. The result of all this was a wide diffusion of sympathy with his cause, and a prodigious increase of popularity for himself; for he came to be looked upon as a martyr for the Church and monarchy, as against the democratic sentiments that then began to prevail. So high, indeed, did this feeling run, that when George I, who had been taught to regard all High Churchmen as Tories, and all Tories as Jacobites, had in the first year of his reign to appoint a successor to Bishop Fleetwood, translated to Ely, he saw the policy of no longer ignoring the Welsh clergy; and so, in order to reconcile them to his family, he selected Dr. John Wynne, Principal of Jesus College and Margaret Professor of Divinity at Oxford, to fill the vacant see. The principle to which Bishop Wynne owed his own appointment continued to influence him throughout his episcopate; and his promotion of the working clergy of his diocese to its dignities, stands out in favourable contrast to the custom of his successors.

The vigilance exercised by the state to secure the loyalty of the clergy,—a subject which was for some time made a regular point of inquiry at Visitations,—received a curious illustration in the embarrassment of the authorities on a question submitted to counsel in 1716, and the conflicting opinions thereon, namely, whether a beneficed clergyman who had the misfortune to be a lunatic, could retain his living; not because he was incapacitated by his affliction, but because he had not taken the oath of supremacy to the king!

The reports of rural deans in 1729 supply many interesting particulars as to the character of the Church services and the condition of the fabrics at that time. On Sundays the custom was to have matins, or morning prayer, and a sermon; and in the afternoon, evening prayer and catechising; though in some places the catechising was limited to Lent; the holy days were generally observed; the Holy Communion was administered monthly, though in some churches in Tegeingl it was less frequent,—in private administration it was the custom to wear a surplice; the offertory was collected for the support of the poor

every Sunday throughout the diocese, except in the deanery of Bromfield, which followed the English custom of levying a tax for that purpose, according to the Act of 43 Elizabeth. Another Welsh peculiarity, noticed as finding its bounds in the mountain region between Ruthin and Wrexham, was that of offerings at funerals.

The fabrics of the churches were just beginning to lose something of that original character which they appear to have hitherto retained ; and the narrow lancets, with their “ dim, religious light”, were making way for larger windows with round or square heads. The rood-lofts, however, were still retained, as the people would not let them be removed, even on the plea of converting the materials into seats for young people and servants. Some seats, it appears, had already been set up at intervals, and in an irregular manner, and were even now becoming a source of trouble and injury. “ The benches and sitting places in our churches, which are thought to have been formerly common”, writes one rural dean (“ commons” is the very name applied to them by another), “ are now, by time and usage, become appertinent to houses and messuages ; and the proprietors are very tenacious of old rights, things, and customs, and will not admit of any alterations in their sitting places, though for the better”. The permission to erect them seems however, in the first instance, to have been granted by the vestry either out of special favour to individuals, or else in consideration for certain repairs and benefactions to the church. The floors of the nave were generally carpeted with rushes, and only in some instances flagged, though the chancel was generally so. The nave itself was often used as the parish school, and the churchyard as a playground, not only on week-days, but on Sundays also, as we may infer from the strict injunctions to the wardens in the deanery of Mechain to “ break off that evil custom”. A still worse abuse, however, was the holding of markets and fairs in them, “ buying and selling in the very porches” ; as was complained of, for instance, at Llangernyw and Bettws Gwervyl-Gôch. The origin of this abuse is, no doubt, to be found in the License occasionally granted in early times, as we have seen in the case of St. Asaph, to hold a fair on some Saint’s day, generally the wake or vigil of



the founder, the tolls of which should go to eke out the scanty maintenance of the priest; and which, at first closely connected with a religious service, gradually lost its holier associations under a weight of busy, worldly, unhallowed traffic and enjoyment; and, being finally dissociated from the sanctions of religion, left its own impress of barter, noise, and revelry stamped upon the festival.

From some of the parishes of Montgomeryshire there came a complaint that the Church-levy could not be collected; for not being recoverable, like poor's rate, people sometimes refused to pay, and declared that if turned out of the Church they would be welcome in the meeting houses. Another gravamen from the same county had reference to clandestine marriages. "An evil custom has been growing up", writes the rural dean of Cyfeiliog, "for laymen of all trades and occupations to take upon them to join persons together in matrimony. In the diocese of Bangor, on each side of us, were several; but the chief of them now dead. In the county of Cardigan and diocese of St. David's, within six or seven miles of Machynlleth, there dwells a layman that frequents the town on fairs and great markets, and marries several couples in public alehouses by day or night; besides many others that go to his house to be married, from this and the neighbouring counties, in great and public companies. He gives the persons so married certificates attested by some of the company then and there present, and signed by himself, — clerk". As the culprit lived beyond the limits of the diocese, he was able, perhaps, to continue the practice with impunity; but a similar proceeding in Merionethshire was very summarily disposed of, both in the case of a layman and in that of an eccentric rector of Llansantffraid-Glyn-Dyfrdwy.

The reports for 1749, twenty years later, contain many complaints about the bad state of the glebe-houses and the non-residence of some of the clergy. These houses, and there were many parishes in which none existed, were often but mud-floored cottages of a single story; and as there was then no Queen Anne's Bounty available for their improvement, and the clergy, in those cases even oftener than in others, too poor to meet the necessary outlay, they gradually fell into decay by being sublet



to cottagers; the incumbents being permitted to occupy some other house in the parish, and in some cases to hold a curacy elsewhere, or another living with a better residence. Too much in character with this unsatisfactory state of the glebe-houses was that of the fabrics of the churches, whilst the difficulty and cost of procuring briefs for their repair rendered that a much less available resource than it otherwise ought to have been.<sup>1</sup> The services, indeed, appear to have been performed with regularity and frequency, not only on Sundays and holy days, but also on the Wednesdays and Fridays in Lent; and daily in the towns of Wrexham, Denbigh, and Oswestry; catechising frequent; the Holy Communion administered monthly, and a very large number returned as communicants at the Easter celebration.

Still, with all this outward regularity, much of the inner life of the Church seems to have been growing slack and dull, when a new current set in that ruffled for a time its calm surface, and might have quickened it to its pristine life and power if well and wisely guided; for Methodism in Wales, although unhappily allowed to develop into Nonconformity, yet in its origin, principles, and aim, differed widely from the existing forms of Dissent, and must be regarded, for a time at least, as an internal movement from within the Church rather than one external or hostile to it. To estimate its character properly, in its relation both to the Church and to the then existing phases of Nonconformity, requires a brief review of the latter, and will fall more appropriately under a separate chapter.

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<sup>1</sup> The following extract from the Register at Llanddulas will shew the exorbitant expense of this method of collecting money:

1732.—For Llanddulas Church, collected on 9,902 briefs	-	£649	13	8
Paid for Lord Chancellor's fiat and signing y <sup>e</sup> brief	-	£38	13	0
„ printing the briefs	- - - -	14	17	0
„ the patent	- - - -	25	18	2
„ incidental charges	- - - -	4	10	0
„ salary for collecting 9,725 briefs at 8 <i>d.</i> each	-	324	3	4
„ ditto 177 briefs in London at 16 <i>d.</i>	- -	11	6	0
„ stamping the briefs	- - - -	13	10	0
Total expenses		£432	17	6
Balance available for building the church		£216	16	2

## CHAPTER XI.

## DISSENT AND METHODISM.

Distinction between the two.—The earlier Nonconformity.—Its Statistics for 1715 and 1742.—Rise and spread of Methodism.—Griffith Jones of Llanddowror.—Howel Harries, Daniel Rowlands, Thomas Charles, Simon Lloyd.—Ordination of Lay-Preachers in 1811, and separation from the Church.—Attitude of the Clergy.—The religious Census of 1851 analysed.—The strength and weakness of Dissent.

THE title of this chapter is intended to mark the distinction between the earlier Nonconformity and that movement which had its origin in the eighteenth century. The old Nonconformist bodies, the Independents, Presbyterians, Baptists, and Quakers, differed essentially from the Church in points of order and discipline as well as in peculiarities of doctrine, and were separated from her by a wide gulf ecclesiastical and political. The new movement, on the other hand, owed its origin mainly to some clergymen of Calvinistic leanings, whose aim it was to requicken the inner spiritual life of the people, which seemed to them to have become dulled and weakened under a garb of outward formality. And this they sought to do by enforcing more distinctly the personal and subjective aspect of religion, and by supplementing the ordinary public ministrations of the Church with more frequent and less formal pastoral intercourse.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "I must do justice to the Dissenters in Wales," writes the Rev. Griffith Jones, vicar of Llanddowror, in 1741, "and shall appeal for the truth of it to all competent witnesses, and to all those themselves who separate from us, that it was not any scruple of conscience about the principles or orders of the Established Church that gave occasion to scarce one in ten of the Dissenters in this country to separate from us at first, whatever objections they may have afterwards imbibed against conforming. No. They generally dissent at first, for no other reason than for want of plain, practical, pressing,

“Until the beginning of the eighteenth century the Welsh Nonconformists, with the exception of the Quakers and perhaps one Anabaptist Church in Radnorshire, were all Calvinists in doctrine and Congregationalists in Church polity. About that time a part of the Church at Wrexham, sympathising with the views of their former fellow-townsmen, Dr. Daniel Williams, separated from the Congregational Church, and set up a Presbyterian interest there. Dr. Williams’s views, which scarcely differed in anything from moderate Calvinism, were then branded by High Calvinists as Baxterianism, Neominianism, etc.; and Mr. Thomas Edwards, a member of the Congregational Church there, published in 1699 a huge quarto volume entitled *Baxterianism Barefaced*, in which he abused Mr. Baxter, Dr. Williams, and all other authors whom he regarded as unsound, in the most intemperate style.”<sup>1</sup> This controversy, in which the Low Calvinists or Baxterians, whose leanings were to Presbyterianism, were ranged on the one side, and the High Calvinists or Independents, who upheld the more rigid Congregationalism, on the other, was taken up warmly at Henllan in Carmarthenshire, and may be regarded as the commencement of a series of disputes which gradually led to the division of the Nonconformist body into the Calvinistic and Arminian parties, and the latter again into the Trinitarian and Anti-Trinitarian subdivisions. To this agitation Independency and Calvinism are said to be indebted for their very existence in the Principality. The state of things at Henllan which caused this disturbance, ignoring the cardinal doctrines of the Gospel, preaching mere morality, lax discipline, and a leaning towards the Presbyterian form of Church government, seems to have more or less affected other neighbouring congregations at that time, and would most probably have pervaded all the Nonconforming bodies throughout Wales unnoticed, had it not been for this storm, to which an important feature in their system owes its origin. “Ever after the Welsh Churches have not been without vigilant persons to watch and report the

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and zealous preaching in a language and dialect they are able to understand, and freedom of friendly access to advice about their spiritual state.”—*Welsh Piety*, p. 12 (1741).

<sup>1</sup> *History of Protestant Nonconformity in Wales*, p. 282 et seq.

least deviation from orthodoxy. That this class of persons have done incalculable good, and in many instances prevented a world of evil, is undeniable; but, on the other hand, it must be confessed that there have been found among them, from time to time, individuals whose characters, violent tempers, and want of prudence, often disgraced the cause which they professed to defend."<sup>1</sup>

South Wales was at this period the home and nursery of Nonconformity. In the North it had but few adherents before the second half of the century. Statistics collected in 1715<sup>2</sup> shew only ten congregations in the whole of the six counties; and that portion relating to this diocese is both pertinent and interesting, as shewing their distribution as well as the social and political standing of their members:

DENBIGHSHIRE.

Place.	Ministers.	Average attendance.	Social and political Standing.
Denbigh P.	... Thos. Baddy, ... scholar	60...	One member worth between £4000 and £5000, and three worth £500, the rest tradesmen and farmers; no beggars; 8 votes for the county, and 12 for the borough.
Wrexham P.	... John Kenrick	...230...	Twenty tradesmen; 29 votes for the county, and 3 for the borough.
„	A. ... John Williams ... scholar	...150...	Fourteen tradesmen; 23 votes for the county, and 6 for the borough.

FLINTSHIRE.

Newmarket P.	... Richard Humphreys	... 30...	One member worth between £14,000 and £15,000; 1 vote for the county, and 3 borough.
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MERIONETHSHIRE.

Bronycludwr, Dolgelley, & Bala I.	... Edward Kenrick	...150...	One esquire; 12 votes for the county.
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MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

Newtown P. (in and near)	... Peter Seddon, ... David Richard	} 120 {	Two gentlemen, four freeholders; 5 votes for the county, 1 for the borough.
Llanfyllin and Pant Mawr I.	... Willm. Jervis, ... scholar		
Llanbrynmair & Trefeglwys I.	... Willm. Jervis, ... scholar	90...	One freeholder; 1 vote for the county, 1 for the borough.
Llanllugan I.	... Ditto - -	...100...	All poor people.

<sup>1</sup> *History of Protestant Nonconformity in Wales*, p. 285.

<sup>2</sup> By Dr. John Evans, and given in the *History*, p. 289.



Adding to these a few Roman Catholics and Quakers, we have the statistics of Dissent for this diocese in 1715. Another return,<sup>1</sup> dated 1742, shews that here at least their numbers had not much increased during the interval. "In Denbighshire there are three congregations of Dissenters, viz. a small one in the town of Denbigh, and two in Wrexham; and I might add one in Oswestry, which, though in Shropshire, the people are Welsh, and border on Denbighshire. In Flintshire is a small one; in Merionethshire there is but one, not far from Bala; in Montgomeryshire there are five congregations, two of which were lately gathered by that excellent minister of Christ, Mr. Lewis Rees, who preaches at five places in this county and two places in Merionethshire, between twenty and thirty miles from his own habitation."

This comparative stagnation, not to say retrogression, has been in part accounted for by the fact that hitherto no Welsh speaking natives of North Wales had been trained for the Dissenting ministry; and that its advocates, coming from the South, were under peculiar disadvantages owing to the difference of idiom between the two divisions of the Principality,—a difference now vastly diminished by more general intercourse and a common literature. Another reason, too, requires to be borne in mind, that, in the North, Church principles had, upon the whole, been more fully and faithfully carried out. Nor does the subsequent spread of Methodism at all militate against this view. Tracing back its origin to Griffith Jones, vicar of Llanddowror in Carmarthenshire, a man of great eloquence and piety, and full of zeal for the spiritual amelioration of his countrymen, its primary object was to awaken among the people a more vivid personal sense of religion. Being a man of uncommon power in the pulpit he was often invited by the neighbouring clergy, and sometimes by the wardens against the will of their clergy, to preach in other parishes; and this he used to do at stated times of the year, such as Easter and Whitsuntide. In the course of these preaching tours he formed his admirable plan for establishing

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<sup>1</sup> Said to have been written by Mr. Edmund Jones of Pontypool, and first published in the *Glasgow Weekly History*.—Rees, p. 385.

circulating schools. Several of these schools were to be in charge of an itinerating master, who should take them in turns within a given circuit; and after they had been in operation for some time in one place, they were then to be transferred to another, but to be revisited and repeated again after a certain interval. By this means he was able to spread the teaching over a wide area, and to take in poor and scattered districts. The munificence of Madame Bevan enabled him to perpetuate the system; and it is one which in times past conferred a great boon upon many of our Welsh parishes, though utterly inadequate to the educational requirements of the present day. For the better carrying out of his plan he established in his own parish a school for the training of more efficient masters; and as he belonged to that school which favoured the views of Calvin, he naturally enough preferred those candidates who held, or were likely to imbibe, congenial views, drawing his recruits from the Nonconformists as well as from Churchmen. The Catechism, which by this means he disseminated by thousands, and the Bible Commentary, which he generally kept by him for sale, were those of Matthew Henry, a learned and attractive expositor, but a Presbyterian in principles. This bias shook the confidence of some of the clergy; and they were not a little justified in their distrust of the measure by its after-development into an actual schism, of which these very schoolmasters were among the leading promoters; others, again, were annoyed at his intrusion into their parishes; whilst others, no doubt, opposed him from feelings of jealousy, because his energy reflected upon their own want of zeal. It was to his preaching that Howel Harries, the actual founder of Welsh Methodism, the friend and companion of Whitefield, attributed his first vivid impressions of religion; and the conversion of Daniel Rowlands of Llangeitho, one of its earliest and most eloquent advocates, was due to the same source. Their preaching was, in its *earlier* stages, of a very fervid and sensational character; and they drew such awful pictures of death, judgment, and hell, as to obscure in no slight degree the character of God as a merciful and loving Father. Still, by so holding up "the terrors of the Lord", they wrought with a strange power on the feelings of their hearers,—a power which has been

proved, by the experience of more recent revivals, to spread by contagion, and produce states of uncontrollable excitement ; sometimes developed in convulsions of agony, sometimes in ecstasies of joy. When, therefore, "they began to creep up from the South into the Merionethshire parts" of the diocese, they were regarded as something like fanatics, and looked upon with no little aversion ; for they not only launched out terrible denunciations against the prevailing vices, but they also included in the category some things that were harmless. The "Wakes" with their abuses, for instance, were especial objects of their animadversion ; but they themselves went so far in the opposite direction, and took such a gloomy view of the nature of the Christian life, that they concluded all mirth to partake of sin ; and have given to the national character a tinge of gloom, not to say Pharisaism. Other reasons that suggest a modification of the dark colouring given to the character of the times when they began their mission, may be found in the tendency to exaggerate their own labours for good at the expense of others,—a tendency for which they have been much censured by the earlier Dissenters ; and in the natural desire of their denomination to supply therein a justification for their proceedings.

Notwithstanding all this, and in spite of many eccentricities which find their parallel in the Ritualistic movement of our own day,—a parallel of much importance for a right estimate of the former difficulty, and a wiser action in the latter,—we cannot reflect on the service that Methodism as it is has done, or contemplate the far greater good it might have wrought as an acknowledged and well guided handmaid of the Church, without feeling the most sincere regret that more of wisdom and of tenderness were not shewn towards it ; and that the authorities of the Church did not utilise the materials so presented by appropriating them to her service whilst the opportunity lay open to them. But unhappily, instead of bracing to her opportunity, the Church was clogged by the treatment to which she had been for some time systematically subjected. With the exception of Bishop Thomas, nominated in 1743, but promoted to Bath and Wells before his consecration, no Welshman—no one even conversant with the language, or acquainted with the peculiarities



and sympathies of the people—has been promoted to this see since the translation of Bishop Wynne to Bath and Wells in 1727 ; and from about the year 1750 until Bishop Bagot rebuilt the Palace in 1795, none of those who were appointed resided within the diocese for more than a month or two in the summer of each year, and not always so long ; so that at the very time when of all others our Church stood most in need of sympathetic and conciliatory chief pastors,—men who could moderate and harmonise the new elements, and by the influence of their personal experience and examples attract that which was good in the movement,—she had to suffer doubly, from a painful absence of these qualities, and from an ever-growing nepotism that disheartened the native clergy, and helped in no slight degree to estrange and embitter the laity. All the highest dignities and the most valuable sinecures were bestowed upon their relations and personal friends, and the Church's trust has been treated very much as a family perquisite ; and the result has been that in this diocese more especially the gentry have almost ceased to bring up their sons to holy orders. There have been, indeed, among our English bishops men distinguished for piety and eloquence and learning. Such were the apostolic Beveridge, the silver-tongued Fleetwood, and the learned Tanner ; men who might have made, and some of whom did make, excellent bishops in an English diocese, but who were not fitted for the charge they undertook in a Welsh one ; nor were they able so to represent their episcopal office as, I will not say to disarm the opposition of those who argued from its abuse to its non-importance, but they even weakened the hands of their clergy by their manifest contradiction of one of the Articles of the Church, on the only occasion wherein they were brought into direct contact with the people entrusted to their oversight. It is no wonder, therefore, that under such circumstances many of the clergy were non-resident, and some of the resident worldly and indifferent ; and some, too, it must be added, openly immoral ; and these last were a very grievous scandal and injury to the Church, not only from the publicity and exaggeration given to their misdeeds by her enemies, who would represent them as specimens of all, but also from the fact that, having once disqualified themselves for



higher preferment, they were still left, owing to the difficulty and expense of the legal process for their deprivation, as sores to fester in the Church's side, and crush out the spiritual life of their parish.

It was something like this when Mr. Charles (of Bala), setting himself, whilst curate of Llanymawddwy, about the year 1783, to put down some bad practices that prevailed in that parish, began to renew the old custom of catechising; but being looked upon as an innovator, he was complained of by his parishioners to their non-resident rector, and by him dismissed the curacy. Being suspected of Methodism, at that time very unpopular in those parts, he was unable to obtain any other curacy; and finding himself at length precluded from all hopes of preferment, and almost all opportunity of usefulness in the Church, he yielded to the solicitations of the Methodists, and joined that body, though in heart he still clung to the Church, as he shewed by his practice in regard to Baptism and the Lord's Supper. On a similar suspicion of favouring Methodism, Mr. Simon Lloyd, after serving many curacies, was refused institution by Bishop Horsley to the cure of Llanuwchllyn, to which he had been presented by the patron in 1803; and he, too, joined the Methodists. The exclusion of these two men in this diocese, like that of Peter Williams, the eminent Bible commentator, in St. David's, was a serious blow and injury to the Church; but a tower of strength to the denomination with which they became thenceforth identified, for they laboured with great talent and unwearied zeal in spreading through the country a fuller knowledge of the Scriptures in their own tongue, and their names are now as "household words."<sup>1</sup>

We cannot, therefore, but repeat our regret that more tenderness and sympathy were not exhibited towards them; and we

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Charles was the originator of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and prepared two editions of the Welsh Bible for the press, in 1804 and 1814. He was also the author of *Y Geiriadur Ysgrhythrol* (the Scripture Dictionary) in 4 vols. 8vo; and published new editions of Bishop Jewel's *Apology* in Welsh, Walter Cradock's works, and a *Vindication of the Welsh Methodists*. Mr. Lloyd was the author of *Amsergyddiaeth Ysgrhythrol*, a useful work on Scripture chronology, and of *Esboniad byr ar y Datguddiad*.

do this without being misled by the word-painting which would represent all that was done by their party as single-minded, enlightened, and evangelical; and all that lay on the other side as worldly, bigoted, and ignorant; for, thank God! there were many good and faithful churchmen, both of the clergy and the laity, who, loving their Church's apostolic order, and her truer evangelical, because more comprehensive, system of doctrine, continued steadfastly doing their duty within her fold; but were less noted because they were content to forego any special plans of their own, and do the Church's work in the Church's ordinary way. We regret it still more because we feel bound to disapprove most strongly of that fatal step which altered the whole attitude of the Methodists towards the Church, viz. the ordination of their lay-preachers in 1811. But even here we need to speak with tenderness mingled with self-reproach; for one cannot help feeling that had we had bishops<sup>1</sup> conversant with the people, and alive to the requirements of the case and its opportunity, that step need not and would not have been taken. Up to that time "the Methodists had been considered a part of the Established Church; none but episcopally ordained clergy had administered the Lord's Supper among them, and their children were baptised by the minister of the parish in which they lived." By that step, however, urged indeed often before by the lay-preachers, but strenuously opposed by the clergy who had hitherto favoured the cause, and had hoped that such measures might be taken as would secure its services to the Church, its relation towards the Church was most materially changed; and the Episcopal clergy, for the most part, broke off their connexion with it rather than be partakers in the schism. Thenceforth adopting its own orders and sacraments, and acquiring vested interests of its own, it assumed by degrees an antagonism proportioned to its increasing power. Doctrinally, too, it advanced to such an extreme as to lay it open at one time to the charge of Antinomi-

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<sup>1</sup> This is not said so much with reference to the individual as to the official influence of the order; for the bishop being the centre point of the Church's system, *μηδὲν ἀνευ τοῦ ἐπισκόπου*, not only gives a certain tone and character to the diocese, but is especially responsible for the results of his system of administration, on which its general welfare so much depends.

anism. "The propagation of Wesleyanism in the Principality",<sup>1</sup> writes the historian of Protestant Nonconformity in Wales,<sup>2</sup> "to a great extent changed the style of preaching in the three leading denominations, the Independent, the Calvinistic Methodist, and the Antipædobaptist. In order to keep at a safe distance from Arminianism such a high Calvinistic strain of preaching was adopted as tended to lead the people direct to the whirlpool of Antinomianism." This was attended with endless controversy, in which many disputants engaged, each from his own standpoint contending earnestly for his favourite view, and tending at the same time to multiply the divisions into which they have been ever falling.

The clergy, meanwhile, to whom controversy was not so essential an element, stood for the most part quietly aloof, as they saw from the Church's wider platform that the points at issue had each a place in the Christian scheme, though pressed alternately far beyond its right proportion. The misrepresentations of themselves and their Church they resolved to live through, in the trust that all would right itself in the end. But this quiet was too often misconstrued into indifference; and from its contrast to the apparent life by which it was surrounded, was looked upon as a sign of weakness; and, indeed, in so far as we have omitted to supply the people, in their own language, with an answer to those misrepresentations, and an exposure of the fallacies of fact and argument employed against us, we must be written culpable; and if we would recover the ground that has been lost, we must learn to make a fuller and a wiser use of the native press.

The religious statistics, taken on the Census Sunday in 1851,<sup>3</sup> shew, indeed, a large increase in the number of Dissenters of all denominations; but from them some very unwarranted and fallacious deductions have been drawn to the disparagement of the

<sup>1</sup> This, as far as the Welsh language is concerned, began at Ruthin about the year 1800.

<sup>2</sup> P. 464.

<sup>3</sup> I take this census because it is the last *general* one, not because I think it altogether trustworthy. On this latter point I would refer to Mr. Pughe's paper on the religious statistics of Wales. (Douglas, Bangor, 1867.)



Church. The three points which have been made most of in this respect, as shewing the comparative strength of Church and Dissent, are the number of places of worship, of sittings, and of worshipping population, belonging to the two sides respectively.<sup>1</sup> First as to the places of worship. The number furnished in Wales and Monmouthshire by the Church was 1,180; by the Nonconformists (including Independents, Baptists, Methodists Calvinistic and Wesleyan, Quakers, Brethren, Latter Day Saints, and Roman Catholics), 2,826; that is, about twice and a half as many; which is not very surprising when we consider the number of the Sects, the facility with which they subdivide, and the manner in which they provide for the erection of their chapels, as much sometimes for the hopes as for the wants of their several denominations. Whence we find that, secondly, the number of sittings provided by them exceeded by 200,000, the number of worshippers present at the most numerous attended service even on the Census day. Thirdly, the worshipping population the same day was returned at 138,719 Churchmen, and 473,102 Nonconformists; that is, as 1 to 3.5; or even to take the most favourable view for the Nonconformists, the returns for the most numerous attended services were—Churchmen, 134,940; Nonconformists, 490,543; or about 1 to 3.7. Again, if we narrow the ground on this last point, the one least favourable to the Church, to the counties included in this diocese, we have the following figures:

	Church.		Nonconf.		Total worship- ping Pop.		Total Pop.		Balance.
Denbigh - -	9,138	...	29,153	...	38,291	...	92,583	...	54,092
Flint - - -	4,931	...	13,046	...	17,977	...	68,156	...	50,179
Montgomery -	8,370	...	22,441	...	30,811	...	67,335	...	36,524
Merioneth -	2,360	...	20,168	...	22,528	...	38,843	...	16,315

Now in this list of worshippers at the most numerous attended service, we have, for the counties of Flint and Montgomery, one Churchman to rather less than three Nonconformists; in Denbigh, one to rather more than three; and in Merioneth, the most Dissenting county in the whole of Wales, one to rather less than nine. But here Dissent appears to the best advantage; for its

<sup>1</sup> *Letters on the Social and Political Condition of Wales*, by H. Richard, p. 16.



most attractive services are in the evening, much the most favourable time for the attendance of the people ; whereas in the parish churches, the service at that time of the year, namely the end of March, being generally held in the afternoon, the best attendance there would be the less favourable morning. Moreover, as in that calculation no account could be taken of pastoral care, such as the visitation of the sick, the care of the poor, and the education of the young,—points in which Dissent is comparatively weak and the Church strong, I have appended to it the large residue or balance there left unaccounted for ; but which, for this reason, must be regarded as giving a much more favourable proportion to the Church than to Dissent. Still these statistics do shew a large growth in Dissent under its various forms, more especially during the last fifty years,—a growth, moreover, not limited simply to numbers, but also applying to social position, education, and taste ; for not only are the new chapels generally built after a much improved style, so as to bear about them an ecclesiastical look, but some are, externally at least, built on the plan of churches, with chancel, nave, transepts, apse, tower, spire, crosses, and everything else, save perhaps the orientation ; whilst internally organs and harmoniums, the gown and even the surplice (as at Abercarn) have been adopted, and there is now, too, a move for a settled Liturgy. So that matters which were looked upon as abominations by their fathers, are being gradually introduced by their more æsthetic sons. Are they however, it may be asked, with these developments and adoptions, really drawing nearer to the Church ? Really I think they are ; for however much they may differ as to method, they are hereby recognising the goodness of *principles* which they formerly rejected ; and it must be borne in mind that many of their objections were after-thoughts adopted to support or justify their schism on personal grounds, and that these things were not by any means the original causes of it. At the same time it must be confessed that there is *apparently* very little sign of anything like a general return ; for though individual instances are very numerous among the better educated of their younger members, yet as bodies they have not only acquired corporate interests of their own, but they are alive to the wisdom of adapting their

systems to the wants of the age, even though it be at the partial sacrifice of the generations gone by.

Here, then, it may be asked, wherein do the strength and attractiveness of Dissent lie? And what may be considered its weak points? The three main elements to which they themselves are wont to attribute their success are, the Pulpit, the "Seiat", and the Sunday School. Of these, the Pulpit combines, in a great degree, plainness, novelty, and economy of power; for the sermons being delivered "memoriter", go home to the people's hearts with a familiarity and force seldom attained in the more staid delivery of written compositions; and being available for many successive places, they last a long while, and admit each time of being rendered more complete. The preachers, at the same time, are relieved from the labour of always having to prepare fresh sermons. Who may be coming is a matter of some curiosity; and be he who he may, there is generally some variety. The "Seiat Breivat" consolidates the work of the pulpit by binding together, in the closer union of a private society, the professing members or communicants, who thenceforth look upon one another as "yn perthyn i grefydd", and marked off by a wide distinction from the irreligious world outside ("extra ecclesiam"), much as was the case with the religious brotherhoods in mediæval times. The Sunday School, again, gives occupation and interest to a large number of their members; and from the importance they attach to it, as well as from the advantage to be derived by way of direct instruction, it proves a very attractive power.

There are, however, other elements, besides these, deserving of notice as contributing very materially to their success. Their whole system is popular, in the sense that each member has a voice in the election of the officers; and these, again, have the entire control of the meetings as well as the choice of the preacher, who is practically under them; and this gives them a quiet and speedy means of removing scandals. Their services, too, are much more simple than those of the Church, as they do not require the same exertion of thought, or involve the same turning over of the leaves of the Prayer Book to search for their places. They have little to do but to sit and listen. By limiting

themselves, moreover, almost entirely to the Welsh language, they escape that which is one of the great difficulties to the Church in Wales, viz. the duoglott or bilingual difficulty. There are also other elements of a more mixed and doubtful character, such as the profitable turn they give to their principle of brotherhood ("teulu y ffydd") in its social bearings; for they are much more exclusive in their dealings than Churchmen, and make it more a point of duty to promote the interests of their own members: hence a shop kept by a Dissenter will often thrive, which, if kept by a Churchman, would fail of support; and it generally happens that the shopkeeper is a leading officer in the chapel. Politics, too, are more mixed up with religion in their case. It may be from the necessity or from the natural tendency of the two; for the tendency of both with them is democratic: hence their chapels are not limited, like the consecrated churches, to sacred uses, but are also used occasionally for political and social meetings. Then, again, there is the religio-commercial system on which so many chapels have been built; for whilst I am anxious to do justice to the very large sums that have been contributed for this object, I cannot forget that these moneys have not, for the most part been given, as has been the rule in church-building; but have been lent, with or without interest, to be repaid in instalments; so that the very necessity of this repayment has involved a certain amount of pressure to keep up the interest of the cause. There is one other matter of very prime importance; and that is the Welsh press, which is almost entirely, to our shame be it said, in their hands; and this engine they work well and abundantly.

A few words as to their weak points may aptly close this chapter. The admixture of politics and finance, already alluded to, must be more or less sources of weakness in what assumes for itself to have been so much a spiritual and voluntary movement. But there are other defects which seem more inherent in its system. The idea of *worship*, as such, is quite overlaid by the more selfish notion of getting good. Their very name for religious assembly is "Oedfa", *i. e.*, "a set time", "a meeting": hence the Sunday School occupies such an important place; hardly, if at all, second to their regular service. The very popularity of the

system, again, has a tendency to foster division ; and the term "Capel split" is but too true an index to the history of many a congregation. Lastly, their ministers are too often at the mercy of men who at best have only looked at religious questions from one favourite point of view, and are therefore more concerned for the success of the *achos* (that is, of their own particular aspect of the truth) than for "the whole counsel of God" to be declared according to the *proportion* of faith ; men who find many ways, and scruple not to use them, of bringing to submission, or else driving away, unacceptable teachers.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See above, p. 139, and the *Autobiography* of the Rev. Brewin Grant.



## CHAPTER XII.

## PRESENT STATE OF THE DIOCESE.

Improvement during the present century.—Nepotism and Sinecures.—Episcopal, Plurality, and Cathedral Bills.—Proposed union of the two North Wales sees.—The St. Asaph Petition.—The proposal annulled.—The Ecclesiastical Commissioners. — Transfer of patronage. — Territorial changes.—Redistribution of endowments.—Formation of new parishes. Building of new churches, schools, and parsonages.—Spiritual condition and prospects.—Statistics for 1869.

THE condition of the Church in this diocese, both in its spiritual and material aspects, was perhaps never so low as about the end of the last and the beginning of the present century. Since then, however, a greatly improved tone of public opinion from without, and a deeply increased sense of responsibility from within, have combined to produce a very notable improvement in both these aspects; and to Bishop Cleaver (1806-1815) may be assigned the first of many steps which have tended to this happy result. Two points especially serve to distinguish his episcopate from that of his predecessors, namely his refusal to give livings with cure of souls in plurality, and his constant residence within his see. A new impulse was thus given to the residence of the parochial clergy, and the foundation relaid for all those other improvements which may be said to have flowed directly and indirectly therefrom, the establishment of week-day schools, and the more general adoption of Sunday ones; more frequent and better ordered services; the restoration and rebuilding of old churches which had been allowed to fall into a sad state of unrepair, and the erection of new ones, and of mission- and school-chapels; and the subdivision and partial rearrangement of populous and widely spread parishes, with more regard to their existing wants. The last thirty years have seen a wonderful development of this

spirit of Church life and work ; but the beginning of it is due, in great measure, to Bishop Cleaver, in whose time fifteen parsonage houses were built ; and the National Society, established in 1811, began to help on the work of school building. His refusal to grant livings with cure of souls was a great step in the right direction ; but unfortunately it did not deter either himself or others from heaping sinecures on their relatives and friends. Indeed, the lamentable extent to which this abuse was carried may best be shewn by a calculation made in 1831, and by the comments in which a learned layman in this diocese gave expression to a widely spread feeling on the subject. Mr. A. J. Johnes, in his *Essay on the Causes of Dissent in Wales*,<sup>1</sup> calculated at a high estimate indeed, but with a painful degree of truth, that during the lifetime of Bishop Luxmoore his family enjoyed as much as £27,000 per annum from the Church ; and that after his decease his relations enjoyed, in this diocese alone, £7,226 per ann. ; that the relatives and connexions of Bishop Horseley received £2,690, those of Bishop Cleaver £2,126, and those of Bishop Bagot £1,100. All the sinecure rectories were at the same time divided between three classes of persons,—(1), individuals resident in remote parts of England ; (2), clergymen resident in Wales, but performing no clerical duty ; (3), persons indebted to their connexion with the Bishops for a most unjust share of the Church's revenues.<sup>2</sup> One effect of this system, the same writer points out to have been that “the gentry, in very few instances, devoted their sons to the profession ; and that the vacancy thus left was supplied by clergymen brought up in the grammar schools of South Wales, who being, for the most part, men of a more humble rank in life, were prepared by previous habits to rest satisfied with the inferior preferments to which the native clergy were generally confined.”<sup>3</sup>

Some measures that were passed soon after this, such as the Episcopal, Plurality, and Cathedral Bills, and that for the Commutation of Tithes, helped very materially to remedy some of these abuses. The last of these, by substituting a tithe rent-

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<sup>1</sup> Second edition, 1832, p. 218.

<sup>2</sup> *Essay on the Causes of Dissent*, p. 68.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 195.

charge for what had been previously paid in kind, obscured indeed, to a certain extent, the original character of the endowment; but it removed a source of irritation and occasional dispute between the clergy and their parishioners; and this was much aggravated in those cases where the tithes were gathered by the lessees of non-residents, who were generally much more exacting and unsympathetic than the resident clergy. The other measures, respectively, by equalising the incomes, and reappportioning the patronage of the bishops, did away with that occasion for translation which had so often marred their efficiency, and at the same time set free, for the benefit of the rest of the clergy, dignities and benefices which had been held by them *in commendam*,—by abolishing sinecures and plurality, cut at the root of non-residence,—and as also in the case of the cathedral chapters, which were now remodelled, made a large amount of hitherto appropriated funds available for the spiritual wants of those places from which they were derived. Provision was also made by the Act 6th and 7th William IV for uniting the two sees of St. Asaph and Bangor on the first vacancy; and it was further proposed to appropriate the income of the one to be suppressed to the endowment of the new see of Manchester. This scheme was regarded by the clergy concerned as cruelly impolitic and unjust, and was opposed by them in frequent remonstrances and petitions. They were ridiculed, however, as sentimentalists when they laid stress on the primitive descent and peculiar antiquity of their see, and were accused of looking to the loaves and fishes when they exposed the crying injustice of the plan for transferring their revenues to wealthy Manchester. But the righteousness of their cause and the force of their arguments were well summarised in a “Petition from the Archdeacons, Rural Deans, and parochial Clergy, in the diocese of St. Asaph”,<sup>1</sup> addressed to the Archbishop of Canterbury:

“The question”, they plead, “is, not whether our Church may drag on an enfeebled existence under one bishop, because the united sees may not be greater in extent than some English dioceses; but whether an act of spoliation and injustice shall debar the Church of North Wales from all hope of winning back, by apostolic zeal, a population

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Lays from the Cimbric Lyre*, Appendix, p. 265.



whose estrangement is already ripening into enmity ; whether what is now weak shall be still further enfeebled ; whether, of what is now barely sufficient for our exigencies, one half shall be swept away ; whether labours already sufficiently onerous for the strength of two prelates shall overwhelm the energies and destroy the efficiency of one.....

“We need scarcely remind your Grace of the peculiar difficulties attending the execution of the episcopal functions in North Wales as compared with the generality of English dioceses. Not only is our population diverse in language, and divided in religion, but the patronage which assigns to each of our flocks a pastor, and to each of our clergy a maintenance, is almost universally in the Bishop’s hands. To exercise rightly so important a power would require a knowledge of character which could be gained only from personal intercourse ; and whether we consider the character of the country, or the means of its inhabitants, we cannot expect any communication sufficiently frequent for the above purpose to subsist between the bishop and the clergy of a see which would comprehend the whole of North Wales.

“From the facilities given by recent Acts of Parliament, inducements are afforded for arrangements only to be carried out under the sanction of the diocesan, in subdividing our enormous parishes, and building new churches and schools, to connect the increasing and scattered population with the Established Church. These good works, however partially commenced, can neither be general nor adequate to the exigencies of our Church without greater efforts and more personal superintendence than it will ever be in the power of one prelate to bestow..... We cannot but refer also to an argument forced upon us by the extent and situation of North Wales. It is with dismay that we glance at the possibility that age or infirmity should incapacitate the diocesan of such a district from rightly distributing his enormous patronage, and exercising his episcopal functions. Where, in our half-insular position, could we look for assistance ? Chester, Hereford, St. David’s, the nearest in proximity, are very far removed from us, and each is overwhelmed with its peculiar burthens. Which of these Bishops would have the leisure of a day to contribute to the pressing exigencies of our increasing population ? A population at this day more numerous in one diocese than that of both, when two Bishops were thought necessary for our superintendence. What human encouragement, in their parochial labours, will remain to the clergy when the whole cycle of preferment is arranged, and the social prospects of their body are decided without the aid of personal and immediate supervision, and with no adequate reference to their learning or length of service, to their zeal or fitness for their charge ?”

These just and cogent reasons for the preservation of the two sees found a noble champion in the Earl of Powis ; and the result was that, when on July 26th, 1846, he proposed, in the House of Lords, the second reading of the Bill for their preservation intact,



being supported by the Bishops of London, Bangor, Salisbury, and Oxford, and the Earl of Eldon, it was carried by a majority of ten (there being thirty-eight for and twenty-eight against it); and the leader of the opposition declared that though personally averse to it, he would take no further steps in the matter. The legend inscribed upon Lord Powis's tomb in St. Mary's Church, Welshpool, "*Conservator Episcopatus Assavensis*", bears just witness to his exertions in the cause; whilst the foundation of the scholarship that bears his name attests the gratitude and the deep satisfaction with which the success was hailed.

A Board of Ecclesiastical Commissioners was appointed by Parliament to carry out the other provisions of the Act of 6th and 7th William IV, in the 40th Clause of which it was enacted "That such alterations be made in the apportionment or exchange of ecclesiastical patronage among the several Bishops as should be consistent with the relative magnitude and importance of their dioceses when newly arranged, and as should afford an adequate quantity of patronage to the new sees." As the patronage of a large number of livings was transferred in consequence from this diocese to those of St. David's and Llandaff, it will be important to see the principles and method of their selection. For this we are indebted to the Charge of Bishop Short to his clergy in 1862, from which we gather the following summary:

When the question was before the Board, as to the transfer in the English sees, it was decided that the livings so transferred should not be confined to such as were situated in the diocese of the Bishop to whose patronage they were to belong; and the same rule was necessarily adopted as far as the Principality is concerned. The task of carrying out the details was undertaken by Sir John Lefevre, and he was requested to draw up an outline of the scheme which he would propose to his brother commissioners. As the equalising of the patronage of the dioceses would involve the transfer of nearly half the livings in this diocese, and something of the same sort in some of the English ones, the Board could not agree, and it was left to Sir John Lefevre to propose whatever he thought best; the Bishop abstaining from taking part in the discussion, lest he should be deemed an interested party. When, however, the general principles of the transfer had been settled by the Board, Sir John directed him to select so many livings of such an aggregate value. There were to be a certain number of livings, and altogether they were to amount to a certain annual income. "The principles on which I made my selection were as follow.

I retained all the livings of small value ; for they would add but little to the aggregate sum required, and a bishop is far the best patron of small livings in his own diocese. I retained also all the town livings which from their population or circumstances seem important to the good of the diocese ; for I concluded that a future Bishop of St. Asaph would be more likely to select well for their spiritual benefit than any other."

The patronage of the following livings was accordingly transferred, viz. that of those in—

Table I from the Bishop of St. Asaph to the Bishop of Llandaff.

Table II               "               "               "               Bishop of St. David's.

Table III             "             "             "             Bishop of Bangor.

Table IV from the Bishop of Bangor to the Bishop of St. Asaph.

TABLE I.

Name of Benefice.	Quality.	County situated.	Value.
Bettws Caedewen - - ...	Vicarage ...	Montgomery ...	£211
Bettws yn Rhôs - - ...	" ...	Denbigh - ...	333
Bodfari - - - - ...	Rectory ...	Flint - - ...	296
Caerwys - - - - ...	" ...	" ...	425
Castle Caereinion - - ...	" ...	Montgomery ...	575
Cwm - - - - - ...	Vicarage ...	Flint - - ...	273
Eglwys Rhôs - - - - ...	Rectory ...	Carnarvon - ...	167
Eglwys Fâch - - - - ...	Vicarage ...	Denbigh - - ...	220
Erbistock - - - - - ...	Rectory ...	Den. & Flint ...	254
Halkin - - - - - ...	" ...	Flint - - ...	312
Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog ...	" ...	Denbigh - ...	250
Llandderfel - - - - ...	" ...	Merioneth - ...	260
Llandyssil - - - - - ...	" ...	Montgomery ...	373
Llanferres - - - - - ...	" ...	Denbigh - ...	313
Llanfihangel-yn-Nghwnfa ...	" ...	Montgomery ...	334
Llangyniew - - - - - ...	" ...	" ...	504
Llanmarewig - - - - - ...	" ...	" ...	133
Llanwyddelen - - - - - ...	" ...	" ...	176
St. Martin's - - - - - ...	Vicarage ...	Salop - - ...	320
Moreton - - - - - ...	P. C. - ...	" ...	669
Ysceifiog - - - - - ...	Rectory ...	Flint - - ...	700
Dylife - - - - - ...	P. C. - ...	Montgomery ...	113
Llanbrynmair - - - - - ...	Vicarage ...	" ...	330
Penegoes - - - - - ...	Rectory ...	" ...	250

TABLE II.

Name of Benefice.	Quality.	County.	Value.
Llanerfyl - - - - - ...	Rectory ...	Montgomery ...	£435
Llandysilio - - - - - ...	P. C. - ...	" ...	430
Llansannan - - - - - ...	Vicarage ...	Denbigh - ...	376

TABLE III.

Name of Benefice.	Quality.	County.	Value.
Cemmaes - - - - ...	Rectory ...	Montgomery ...	£288
Darowen - - - - ...	Vicarage ...	„ ...	155
Llanwrin - - - - ...	Rectory ...	„ ...	272
Llan y Mawddwy - - - - ...	„ ...	Merioneth - ...	218
Mallwyd - - - - ...	„ ...	Mont. & Mer. ...	255
Machynlleth - - - - ...	„ ...	Montgomery ...	230

TABLE IV.

Name of Benefice.	Quality.	County.	Value.
Efenechtyd - - - - ...	Rectory ...	Denbigh - ...	£200
Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd - ...	„ ...	„ ...	340
Llanelidan - - - - ...	„ ...	„ ...	252
Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd - ...	Vicarage ...	„ ...	261
Llanrhaiadr in Kimmeirch ...	„ ...	„ ...	} 609
cum Prion - - - - ...	P. C. ...	„ ...	
Llanychan - - - - ...	Rectory ...	„ ...	170
Llanynys with Cyffylliog - ...	V. & C. - ...	„ ...	415

In addition to these, the patronage of the vicarage of Cilcain, in the county of Flint, was transferred to the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol; and that of the vicarage (qy. rectory) of Llanfechain), in the county of Montgomery, to the Bishop of Llandaff.<sup>1</sup>

The following territorial alterations were made at the same time. The deanery of Machynlleth was given to Bangor in exchange for that of Ruthin; and there were added to this diocese,

(1.) The Peculiar of Hawarden, with its Chapelries of St. Matthew's, Buckley; St. Mary's, Broughton; and St. John's, Penmynydd.

(2.) From Chester.—Bangor, R. cum Overton; Hanmer, V.; Holt, P. C.; Isycoed, P. C.; Bronington, P. C.; Threapwood, P. C.; and Worthenbury, R.

(3.) From Hereford.—Buttington, P. C.

(4.) From St. David's.—Kerry, V., with Dolfor and Sarn; and Moughtre, V.

By these arrangements the diocese has been enlarged consider-

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<sup>1</sup> Since the above transfer the following livings have passed into the patronage of the Lord Chancellor, in exchange for others situated within the dioceses of those Bishops to whom they had been respectively transferred,—Bettws Caedewen, Castle Caereinion, Llanfihangel-yn-Ghwnfa, Llangynyw, St. Martin's Moreton, Dylife, and Cilcain.

ably in extent ; but there has been a loss to the bishopric of the patronage of twenty-eight livings of the annual value of some £8,500. The scheme having only come into operation in 1861, it is of course too soon to see what benefits, if any, will result from it to compensate for so serious a loss ; but if their increased patronage should have the hoped-for effect of enabling the South Wales Bishops to retain in their populous and important parishes a better class of men, and these be the ones selected for promotion to the new preferments, then it can hardly fail to prove beneficial to the general interests of the Church, and this diocese may be well content.

Of the redistribution of the funds placed at the disposal of the Commissioners through the operation of the Episcopal and Plurality Bills, we can speak more positively and with much satisfaction. Those abuses of sinecurism and non-residence which had been for so long a hindrance to the Church's work, and a scandal to her administration, have been gradually removed ; and of the income thus available, no less a sum than £5,589 : 8 : 9 per ann. has been assigned either in tithe rent-charge, or in money payments, towards the endowment of forty-two new parishes ; and £2,250 : 19 : 6 towards the augmentation of the income of old parishes ; making a total of £7,840 : 8 : 3. But this large rearrangement of the old parishes and their endowments implies a still larger preparatory work in the building of so many new churches with their almost invariable accompaniment, new schools and parsonage-houses.

Some idea of the vast amount thus effected may be gathered from the fact that within the last thirty years fifty-two new churches have been built ; forty-two of which are the centres of new parishes separately endowed with an annual average income of £262 ; seventeen old parish churches rebuilt ; and forty-three ditto restored or enlarged.

Of the new churches, four have been built by the liberality of individuals,—the beautiful church at Bodelwyddan, and those at Trefnant, Pool Quay, and Llwydiarth ; and of the old parish churches, five are the result of similar munificence, Pentrevoelas, Erbistock, Llanbedr, Llandegla, and Llanddulas. Of the large sum expended upon the rest, in building and restoration, some



estimate may be formed from the fact that, small as is the proportion of the grants made by the Church Building Societies to the estimated cost, there have been contributed as much as

£13,157 in aid of 99 places by the C. B. S. established in 1818 ;  
 £17,277 „ 106 „ by the Diocesan C. B. S. „ 1834 ;

grants which infer a further sum, otherwise provided in order to be so met, of a quarter of a million at the least for this one object alone. But to the churches there must be added a large 'number of schools<sup>1</sup> and teachers' houses, towards which and their fittings, in one hundred and nine places, the grants of the National Society alone have amounted to £7,147. And yet, again, there has been the cost of parsonage-houses, as well of those built for the new parishes as of those which had in so many instances, in the old ones, fallen into such a state of dilapidation as in no few cases to need entire rebuilding. Indeed, it is no less gratifying than it is encouraging to think of the large sums of money spent by Churchmen on Church work in this our own diocese ; and it is hardly fair, in the face of such facts as these, to say that endowments are a hindrance and a check to the spirit of almsgiving and charity. Still less is it fair when it be taken into consideration what a large sum is annually spent by Churchmen in the support of schools, hospitals, dispensaries, clothing clubs, and other means of ameliorating the condition of the poor.<sup>2</sup>

Of the new churches embraced within the present diocese, the first to be built were those of St. Matthew's, Buckley (1822),

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<sup>1</sup> The total number of schools in 1866 was 228.

<sup>2</sup> I say this in justice to Churchmen, and because it has become a habit in some places to speak of Dissenters as if they had not only to maintain their own forms of worship, but also to support the Established Church ; forgetting that the only payment they are required to make is the rent-charge of an endowment so old that its first bestowal is hidden in the mist of early history ; an endowment, moreover, in consideration of which, if they happen to be owners of property, they have purchased it, and if tenants have rented it, at so much less than its full value ; and which, if done away with tomorrow, would no more go into their pockets than it does now in the case of lands tithe free, or than it is proposed to do with the surplus funds of the Irish Church. Nay, I venture to say further, that if the proposal recently laid before Parliament for the disestablishment and disendowment of the

and St. Mary's, Broughton (1824), in the then Peculiar of Hawarden; but these stood long by themselves, until the institution of the "St. Asaph Diocesan Society for promoting the Building, Enlargement, and Endowment, of Churches and Chapels," on the 30th July, 1834, gave a new and general impulse to the movement. One of the chief promoters of this excellent and useful Society was the late Dean Clough, who also inaugurated its work by the subdivision of his own huge parish of Mold,—a parish in which he raised, during the course of his vicariate, about £20,000 for Church purposes. Another name to be recorded here is that of Bishop Carey, under whose auspices the Society was started, and whose large bequest<sup>1</sup> is now available as a separate fund not only for such objects as churches, schools, and parsonage-houses, but also for the assistance of poor clergy, their widows, and orphans. And last, but not least, must be added that of our present venerable Bishop, who has been a very liberal supporter of all such works, and whose episcopate will probably be distinguished hereafter as that of the church and school building period. Among the laity of the diocese there are so many names deserving of record, that to enumerate all would be tedious; and to single out a few would be alike invidious and unjust, where many have contributed with equal liberality, as well out of their narrower means as out of their abundance, for the promotion of the common work. Their names, however, will be found recorded in the parochial portion of this history, in connexion with those objects which they have more especially supported.

Turning from the material to the living Church, from the fabric to the worshippers, the result, it must be confessed, is not so satisfactory. The external work of building and restoration has

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Welsh Church, and the appropriation of its income, were to be carried, it would entail an actual hardship on the very persons whom it is presumed to help; for the establishment of so-called unsectarian schools to be supported by them, apart from the paradox of such schools being in effect the most sectarian of all, would necessitate religious Dissenters as much as Churchmen to support denominational schools of their own, where religion and the Bible should not be dissociated from the teaching, in addition to those others where the two could not be combined consistently with the principle of their foundation.

<sup>1</sup> Amounting to £13,500 in the 3 per cent. Consolidated Bank Annuities.

not been accompanied, in all cases, by a corresponding inner growth, nor does her progress appear commensurate with the exertions she has been making. Still it must be remembered what an accumulation of difficulties she has to overcome, what a burden she has had to bear. A Welsh diocese, with a large proportion of the population not even yet able to speak, and a still larger proportion not able to think in any other than their native language, it has nevertheless been subject, for more than a hundred and forty years, to the oversight of an unbroken succession of Bishops unacquainted with that language; whose efficiency, at the best, has necessarily been greatly marred by this defect, and whose administration has been too often stained by much misuse of patronage; one consequence of which has been a sad discouragement to the native clergy, and a great scandal to the laity, resulting in much apathy and worldliness, and not less in material neglect. And to these evils of administration must be added the ever present bilingual difficulty which prevails on every side.

Still, with all this, there has long been a yearning and a move for the better, and there is a growing spirit of Church-life and co-operation throughout the diocese. Not only are the churches, with very few exceptions, renovated and in good order, but the services also are more numerous and more reverently performed; and that not only on Sundays and the great festivals, but often, too, on other occasions. Advent and Lent services are more general; Saints' days more often observed; and in most parishes there is a weekly lecture either in the church, or the school, or a cottage in some outlying hamlet.<sup>1</sup> More attention, too, is paid to the Sunday Schools and the singing classes; and parochial visitation is more systematically carried out. There is hardly a parish, be it never so small, without a school of its own, and none but what is within an easy distance of one; whilst the system of diocesan inspection aims at securing a certain standard of religious instruction, independently of the Government requirements of reading, writing, and arithmetic. Other means adopted for the improvement and increase of these several parts of the Church's work in

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<sup>1</sup> There have been above twenty School Chapels built at a distance from their parish Churches, and divine service is regularly performed in them.



the diocese are,—for the Clergy, clerical meetings for mutual discussion and counsel, and retreats for individual retrospect and prayer;—for the communicant laity, special services and classes for edification, and associations and guilds for more systematic cooperation in parish work. On a larger scale, too, there has been the Association of Lay Consultees, initiated by the late Mr. Henry Hoare; and there is now being organised a scheme for ruridecaneal conferences of clergy and laity combined.

With such a will to help, the way will surely be found; and with these various appliances at work, there need be no fear for the Church's future. She has still a great work to do. There are many thousands of the population of the diocese who are practically neither Churchmen nor Dissenters; and notably is this the case in the towns. Let her do her duty by these first; not in recrimination, not in controversy, not in unavailing regrets, but in an earnest, faithful, loving spirit compelling them to come in from the fields and the byways, the narrow lanes and the crowded streets.

Mindful of the differences in origin and principles, by which the various Nonconformist bodies are distinguished, let us, whilst freely granting that much good has been effected by many of them, be thankful for the quickening life of our own Church, and be for the future more true to her than we have been during the past; more true to her principles and her theory as a Reformed branch of the Church Catholic, distinguished alike from Nonconformity and from Romanism; more true to her and more united among ourselves in the great work before us, for there unhappily still remains a large population to be reclaimed. For these, short and simple services are desirable; and, as far as consistently may be done, a more elastic use of our Book of Common Prayer, in order to supplement its beautiful but elaborate services. Whilst developing, however, and adapting the Church's system, do not let us compromise the truth committed to her charge, nor loosen her hold upon her own children, in the hope of winning back those who, after all, may not be willing to accept her offers. It is by good will, indeed, towards others, but fidelity to herself, that she will most effectually fulfil her duty. By attaching her members to herself and one another, in the closer bond of common



work, she will be able, by their cooperation, best to gather back the wanderers and recover the lost; and thus, too, by a more consistent and vigorous life, will she most surely attract to her communion multitudes of those who already acknowledge the purity of her faith and the apostolicity of her orders.

Some statistics collected during the spring of the present year (1869) will form a serviceable conclusion to this history. They were supplied in response to a series of questions issued by a Committee appointed for that purpose by the Bishop at the petition of the clergy of several of the deaneries, asking him to take measures for ascertaining more exactly the condition of the diocese as to its work and its wants. They are not, indeed, complete, for nine parishes sent no returns; nor are they sufficiently accurate, for in some instances, instead of the *aggregate* number of worshippers and communicants, the *average* was given by mistake; and in others the school-returns were imperfect. Still they are sufficiently approximate to indicate pretty fairly the state of the Church, and to suggest abundant material for future work.<sup>1</sup> With these remarks we may accept the summary drawn up by the Secretary of the Committee, and which gives the following proportions, viz.:

Church worshippers to population	. . . 1 in 6
Communicants	. . . 1 in 22
Children under Church instruction	. . . 1 in 10

Thirty-nine of the parishes are described as Welsh, ninety-seven bilingual, forty-eight English.

#### GENERAL SUMMARY.

Archdeaconry.	No. of Parishes.	Population.	Sunday Services.		Aggregate No. of		Aggregate No. under Ch. instruction.	Attendants at		Places where more Ser-vices wanted	Cures or Lay-Readers wanted
			Eng-lish.	Welsh	Wor-ship-pers.	Com-muni-cants.		Day Sch.	Sun-day.		
St. Asaph	143	194,951	166	155	30,527	7,687	19,712	12,003	8,842	55	44
Montgomery	57	52,172	66½	63½	11,094	3,210	4,593	2,843	2,253	15	10
Totals	200	247,123	232½	218½	41,621	10,897	24,305	14,846	11,095	70	54

<sup>1</sup> Another series of Questions has since been issued by a Committee of Convocation appointed to inquire into the condition of the Welsh Church generally, but its results are not yet known.

These statistics will be somewhat more complete and satisfactory, if, bearing still in mind the confusion between aggregate and average, and supplying the nine deficiencies at the average of the returns as given above, we consider the three items of worshippers, communicants, and scholars, in relation, not to the whole population, but to those portions of it respectively which each more directly represents. Taking the whole population of the diocese, for 1869, at 255,000, more or less, and deducting one seventh for infants under five years of age, we should have 43,582 Church worshippers for 218,572 of worshipping age; *i. e.*, 1 to 5 of the worshipping population. This, however, no doubt includes a large number of those who, attending Church at one time, and one of the Nonconformist chapels at another, according to the convenience of the hour or the attraction held out, are probably included in the worshipping returns of both. In the same way, taking those of communicant age, *i. e.*, above fifteen, at two thirds of the population, we should have 11,410 communicants for 170,000 of communicant age; *i. e.*, 1 in 14.5.<sup>1</sup> Again, if we adopt the estimate put forth in the *National Education League Monthly Paper* for February 1870, that "one eighth of the population is taken to be the number of children of school age," and that about "one ninth is to be deducted for children of a higher class and those already attending free schools, there would be left 28,333 children to be otherwise provided for; *i. e.*, in week-day schools. Now there were last year, in *average* attendance at Church schools, at least 15,549, or rather more than 1 in every 2; but there were on the *registers* a much larger

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<sup>1</sup> An interesting point of comparison, if it were practicable, would be the relative number of communicants, Churchmen and Nonconformists respectively. But it would be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible; for if we take particulars, the number and variety of the denominations, and the ground covered by them, differ in each case as widely as do the ideas of parish and congregation; and if, on the other hand, we take totals, we find from the *Dyddiaduron* (Diaries) of the Independents, Calvinistic Methodists, and Baptists for 1870, that one in every four of the population of Wales and Monmouthshire, above fifteen years of age, must, according to those returns, be a communicant member of one of those three bodies, let alone all the other denominations and Churchmen in the bargain; a calculation, it need hardly be added, that not only carries its own refutation, but also shows the unreliableness of the generally accepted statistics.

number. In 1866 they were 19,899; and in the following year, 21,628; *i. e.*, 3 out of every 4 of the school population. These did not all attend regularly, of course; but still their names would not have been retained on the books if they had not attended to a certain extent; and it is well known that in an agricultural population there are many uses to which children are put, that enables them to combine (not, perhaps, in a satisfactory manner, but still to combine, and sometimes not inefficiently) the two great wants of bread-getting and school-learning. Taking, then, this last number (for 1866-7), it would only leave some 6,000 children untaught in the Church schools; and most of these are, doubtless, provided for by the British and other Nonconformist schools. Of the Sunday scholars it is more difficult to write, because they are not limited to children, but include also young people and adults. The National Society's Report, 1866-7, however, put down 12,409 for the average attendance, and 16,339 as the number on the books; to which, again, in order to complete the estimate, must be added some 600 regular night scholars.

If, lastly, we turn from the scholars to the schools, we find that there were, in 1866, 228 week-day schools in 170 parishes or ecclesiastical districts; but that there were 34 parishes or districts without Church schools. From the National Society's Report, however, we learn that, whilst more than half of this number were supplied with education in conveniently adjoining parishes, there were only 14 parishes in the whole of the four counties of Denbigh, Flint, Montgomery, and Merioneth, that were destitute of either separate or adjoining schools within a convenient distance. As the increase in the number of new schools within the diocese, from 1859 to 1866, was 22; *i. e.*, rather over three a year; and the same work has been going on uninterruptedly since, we may conclude that the most pressing, at least, of these cases have been now supplied; and that the expression employed in the farewell address of the clergy of the diocese to Bishop Short is amply borne out by facts; that his "earnest and most successful labours in the cause of elementary education have left scarcely anything wanting to complete the supply of Church schools for the diocese."



The resignation of Bishop Short<sup>1</sup> at the ripe age of eighty, and after an active episcopate of nine-and-twenty years, during twenty-four of which he presided over this diocese, has been followed, happily, by the appointment of a native Welshman; the first instance of the kind in any Welsh see for many generations, and in this of St. Asaph for exactly a century and a half. The selection of Bishop Hughes, therefore, may be regarded as a reversal of that unhappy policy which, by its continued operation and influence throughout so long a period, has sorely discouraged the energies of the native clergy, and hindered the efficiency of the Church in the Principality; and we hail that inspiriting service in which so many have joined, on the very day these words are written, in doing honour to their new Bishop on the occasion of his enthronement, as an augury of better days, when revived Church life and work, wisely directed and heartily supported, shall bind both clergy and laity more closely together in the one common aim of leading and reclaiming souls to Christ through the more efficient ministrations of our spiritual Mother; and we will add the fervent hope that that Holy Communion with which the service ended, may prove to be for "the strengthening and refreshing" not only of individual souls, but also of the corporate life of the Church within the diocese.

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The subjoined tables relating to the Churches, Schools, and Diocesan Collections for spiritual purposes, will serve not only to illustrate what has been already stated, but also to exhibit in a compendious form the present condition of certain branches of the Church's work, as well as to supply material for comparison in future years of progress and improvement. Those relating to churches were issued by the Dean (Bonnor) in 1869, with special reference (1) to endowments by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and (2) to the grants of the Diocesan Church Building Society.

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<sup>1</sup> This has taken place during the interval between the publication of Parts I and II; the former of which was issued from the press in January, 1870, and ended at p. 164.



That of the diocesan collections is taken from the Report of 1866, the last issued ; and those of school statistics from the Reports of the Diocesan Inspectors and the National Society respectively.

### NEW CHURCHES AND NEW ECCLESIASTICAL PARISHES.

ENDOWMENTS.										
				Sittings	Tithe Rent-Charge & Grants by Eccle- siastical Comm'rs				Gross Income	
†Bala, Llanycil	-	-	-	460	...			...		
Bagillt, Holywell	-	-	-	764	...	£75	0	0	...	£172 0 0
Bistre, Mold	-	-	-	656	...	104	0	0	...	175 0 0
Bodelwyddan	-	-	-	300	...	200	0	0	...	400 0 0
Brymbo, Wrexham	-	-	-	600	...	182	0	0	...	300 0 0
Brynford, Holywell	-	-	-	350	...	40	13	4	...	280 0 0
Bwlch y cibau, Meifod	-	-	-	172	...	122	14	3	...	202 6 3
Bylchau, Henllan	-	-	-	158	...	378	0	0	...	378 0 0
Cefn, Ruabon	-	-	-	875	...				...	142 0 0
Cefn, St. Asaph	-	-	-	220	...	292	0	0	...	292 0 0
Colwyn, Llandrillo yn Rhos			-	303	...	74	0	0	...	170 0 0
Connah's Quay, Northop	-	-	-	500	...	290	8	10	...	301 0 0
†Christchurch, Welshpool	-	-	-	800	...				...	110 0 0
*Cynwyd, Llangar	-	-	-	300	...	17	10	0	...	235 0 0
Dolfor, Kerry	-	-	-	140	...				...	
Eryrys, Llanarmon yn Iâl	-	-	-	200	...	385	11	8	...	385 11 8
Frankton, Whittington	-	-	-	192	...				...	120 0 0
Frongoch, Llanfor	-	-	-	160	...	140	0	0	...	145 0 0
Glyndyfrdwy, Corwen	-	-	-	240	...	113	2	0	...	226 0 0
Gorsedd, Whitford	-	-	-	224	...	279	0	0	...	300 0 0
Gwernaffield, Mold	-	-	-	524	...	90	0	0	...	200 0 0
Gwersyllt, Gresford	-	-	-	387	...	26	0	0	...	150 0 0
Llanddewi	-	-	-	219	...	207	8	8	...	207 0 0
*Llandyssil	-	-	-	360	...				...	
Llanfynydd, Hope	-	-	-	433	...	268	13	2	...	268 13 2
*Llanwyddelan	-	-	-	140	...				...	
Llawr y Bettws	-	-	-	180	...	118	0	0	...	118 0 0
Llwydiarth	-	-	-	120	...				...	230 0 0
Mostyn, Whitford	-	-	-	516	...	262	0	0	...	300 0 0
Moughtre, Newtown	-	-	-	160	...				...	86 0 0
*Newtown	-	-	-	600	...				...	
*Pen y bont fawr, Pennant			-	204	...				...	420 0 0
Pont Bleuddyn, Mold	-	-	-	406	...	71	0	0	...	150 0 0
Pont Dolanog, Llanfihangel			-	200	...				...	155 0 0
Pont Fadog, Llangollen	-	-	-	322	...	100	0	0	...	171 19 5

\* Parish churches in lieu of the old mother church.

† Chapels of ease in connexion with the mother church.

## ENDOWMENTS.

	Sittings	Tithe	Rent	Charge, etc.	Gross Income
Pont Robert, Meifod -	250	...	£23 10 0	...	£187 19 0
Pool Quay, Guilsfield -	250	...	83 6 8	...	250 0 0
Prestatyn, Meliden -	243	...	233 12 4	...	233 12 4
Prion, Llanrhaiadr D. Clwyd	250	...	...	...	150 0 0
Rhes y cae, Halkin -	318	...	217 18 4	...	217 18 4
Rhos llanefch rhugog, Rhuabon	425	...	254 0 0	...	300 0 0
Rhyd y croesau, Llansilin -	300	...	84 0 0	...	100 0 0
Rhyd y mwyn, Cilcain -	200	...	236 9 0	...	236 9 0
Rhyl Welsh Church, Rhuddlan	427	...	77 3 4	...	400 0 0
† „, St. Thomas's -	1085	...	...	...	...
Rossett, Gresford -	550	...	50 0 0	...	149 0 0
Sealand -	300	...	...	...	100 0 0
†St. David's, Denbigh -	828	...	...	...	...
†St. Mark's, Wrexham -	760	...	...	...	100 0 0
†St. Mary's, Llanrwst -	300	...	...	...	95 0 0
Sarn, Kerry -	220	...	...	...	98 0 0
Trefnant -	250	...	378 7 2	...	378 7 2
Trinity, Oswestry -	670	...	113 0 0	...	150 0 0
	19213	...	£5589 8 9	...	£9946 15 4

N.B. To these should have been added Hengoed, St. Barnabas; Llangollen, St. John's; Trefonen, and Rhosygwaliau.

CHURCHES REBUILT.<sup>1</sup>

	Grant	Sittings gained	Of which are free	Date
Bodfari -	£200	100	100	1865
Dauddwr, Llandrinio -	150	191	184	1846
Castle Caereinion -	200	100	100	1864
Flint -	400	265	165	1848
Gwytherin -	100	...	...	1869
Llandysilio -	200	...	...	1868
Llanfair Caereinion -	150	...	...	1868
Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog -	125	60	60	...
Llangwstenyn -	100	97	97	1844
Llansantffraid Glan Conway -	150	192	192	1839
Llanwyddelan -	75	30	30	1866
Llanymowddwy -	100	...	100	...
Llanymynech -	150	115	100	1844
Nannerch -	200	60	60	1853
Northop -	25	29	29	1840
Ysceifiog -	100	232	113	1837
Yspytty Ifan -	200	...	200	1859

<sup>1</sup> With the aid of the Diocesan Church Building Society.

## CHURCHES ENLARGED OR RESTORED.

				Grant	Sittings gained	Free	Date
Aberhafesp	-	-	-	£50	60	60	1857
Bettws yn Rhos	-	-	-	100	190	120	1839
Capel Garmon	-	-	-	75	20	20	1863
Caerwys	-	-	-	15	24	24	
Cemmes	-	-	-	100	14	14	
Cilcain	-	-	-	40	72	72	
Cwm	-	-	-	16	40	40	
Gresford	-	-	-	100			1867
Gwaenysgor	-	-	-	30	50	40	
Hawarden	-	-	-	100		230	1859
Llanbrynmair	-	-	-	80			
Llandrillo in Edeirnion	-	-	-	50	91	91	
„ yn Rhos	-	-	-	100	96	96	1857
Llanddoget	-	-	-	80			
Llanddulas	-	-	-	20	68	40	
Llanfechain	-	-	-	25			
Llanferres	-	-	-	100	162	112	
Llanfihangel Glyn Myfr	-	-	-	70	30	30	
Llanfwrog (in progress)							
Llanfyllin	-	-	-	25	25	25	1856-64
Llangadfan	-	-	-	50			1868
Llangadwaladr	-	-	-	25	100	70	
Llangollen	-	-	-	300		350	1867
Llangower	-	-	-	25			1868
Llangyniew	-	-	-	40	53	53	
Llanrhaiadr Mochnant	-	-	-	10	20	20	
Llansantffraid yn Mechain	-	-	-	10	36	36	
Llansantffraid (Corwen)	-	-	-	50	27	19	1857
Llysfaen (in progress)							
Llanwddyn	-	-	-	75	52	52	
Mallwyd	-	-	-	100	72	72	
Manafon	-	-	-	50		175	
Marchwiall	-	-	-	25	18	18	
Meifod	-	-	-	50	141	141	
Mold	-	-	-	400	289	288	1856
Nantglyn	-	-	-	60		115	1860
Nerquis	-	-	-	200	100	100	
Pontbleuddyn	-	-	-	150	150	150	1865
Rhuddlan (in progress)							
Tremeirchion	-	-	-	25	56	14	
Welshpool	-	-	-	25	15	15	
Wrexham	-	-	-	8	110	110	
Yspytty	-	-	-	20	140	148	

*List of School Churches or Buildings licensed for Divine Worship  
in outlying Hamlets or populous Districts.*

Rural Deanery	Name of Parish	Name of School Church	Services	When opened
Wrexham	Hanmer -	...Bettisfield	...1 English, Sundays	...1851
	Ruabon -	...Pen y cae	...1 Welsh, ditto	...1866
	Ditto -	...Bryn	...1 English, ditto	...1857
	Wrexham -	...Bersham	...English	...1858
	Gresford -	...Burton	...English	...1863
	Brymbo -	...Bwlch Gwyn		...1868
Oswestry	Oswestry -	...Maesbury	...1 Eng., Sunday even'g, Monthly Communion	...1840
	Whittington	...Ebnal, in progress		
Caedewen	Bettws Caedewen	...Dolforwyn	...2 English, Sundays	} 1856
	Llanllwchaiarn	...Pen y glodda	{ 1 ditto, ditto 1 do., Wednesday eve.	
	Berriew -	...Vaenor	{ 1, winter 2, summer } Sunday	} 1857
			Friday evenings dur. ing Lent & Advent	
	Ditto -	...Pant y Ffrydd	...1 English, Sunday	...1858
Denbigh	...Llanelian	...Plas Llanelian	...1 ditto, ditto	...1865
Mold	...Pontbleuddyn	...Leeswood	...English and Welsh	...1859
Bala	...Llanfor	...Sarnau	...2 Welsh on Sundays, 1 on saints' days	...1864
Welshpool	Welshpool -	...Bala	...1 English	...
	Buttington -	...Trewern	...1 English	...1837
	Castle Caereinion	...Cwm Golan	...	
Llangollen	Chirk -	...Pentre	...English	...1866
	Llanyblodwell	...Porthywaen	...Ditto	...1839
Holywell	...Holywell	...Greenfield	...1 Welsh, Sundays	...1846

*Churches in the Diocese of St. Asaph.*

Rural Deanery	Old Parishes	New Parishes	Total Parishes	Chapelries and Chapels of Ease	Total Churches	Open seated Churches, most Sittings free and unappropriated	School Churches
Mold	9	5	14	5	19	8	1
Holywell	8	7	15		15	7	1
Dyffryn Clwyd	15	1	16	2	18	7	
St. Asaph	11	4	15		15	5	
Llanrwt	14	1	15	1	16	7	
Oswestry	8	5	13		13	3	2
Wrexham	14	5	19	2	21	7	6
Llanfyllyn	10	2	12	1	13	7	
Caedewen	13	1	14	1	15	4	4
Bala	11	4	15	2	17	9	1
Llangollen	12	2	14		14	3	2
Welshpool	11	3	14	1	15	8	3
Denbigh	13	3	16	1	17	7	1
	149	43	192	16	208	82	21



I.

*From the Report of the Diocesan Inspectors.*

STATISTICAL TABLE OF SCHOOLS IN CONNEXION WITH THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND,  
IN THE DIOCESE OF ST. ASAPH, IN THE YEAR 1866.

Deanery	Popula- tion	No. of Parishes	No. of Schools	Parishes with- out Day Schools	Number on Books			Percentage of No. on Books on Population	Average Attend- ance	Percentage of Population Average attend.	Present at Examin- ation	Schools from which a Return of Expenditure has been received			
					Boys	Girls	Total					No. of Schools	No. of Children on Books	Total Expenditure £	Average Cost of Education s. d.
Llanrwst A	9930	8	8	2	394	389	783	7.9	578	5.8	543	6	632	545	17 3
Llanrwst B	5334	7	4	3	172	169	341	6.4	242	5.8	276	4	341	245	14 5
Denbigh	19157	15	15	3	734	689	1423	7.4	934	4.9	1116	14	1375	984	14 4
St. Asaph	16616	15	19	1	851	1831	1831	11	1195	7.2	1212	19	1831	1554	17 0
Ruthin	12135	17	13	4	389	320	709	5.84	515	4.24	471	8	609	445	13 0
Holywell	24873	15	18	2	1076	975	2051	8	1376	5	1419	14	1587	1236	15 7
Mold	24710	17	24	2	1173	1102	2275	9	1453	6	1715	14	1771	1149	13 0
Wrexham A	43999	16	28	0	1464	1469	2933	6.6	2070	4.7	2279	27	2742	2184	15 11
Wrexham B	6867	9	10	0	330	399	729	10.6	391	5.7	414	10	729	452	12 5
Oswestry	18383	12	19	1	924	754	1678	9.07	1070	5.82	1116	16	1546	1120	14 5
Llangollen	13345	12	12	3	638	615	1253	9.4	802	6	775	11	955	629	13 2
Penllyn & Edernion	11902	15	10	6	300	270	570	4.8	363	3	393	9	570	424	14 10
Pool & Caereinion	16862	14	18	1	692	646	1338	8	960	5.7	986	13	1153	822	14 3
Llanfyllin	10579	14	12	3	433	403	836	7.9	543	5.1	590	12	836	594	14 3
Caedewen	15388	18	18	3	644	505	1149	7.4	756	5	754	14	912	698	15 3
Total	250080	204	228	34	10343	9556	19899	7.09	13248	5.3	14059	191	17580	13087	14 10½

## II.

*From the Statistics of the National Society for the Year 1866-7.**Table XIX, pp. 34, 35.<sup>1</sup>*

	Denbigh.	Flint.	Mont- gomery.	Meri- oneth.
No. of ecclesiastical parishes and districts ...	79...	52...	66...	47
Population in Dec. 1866, according to Registrar-General . . . . .	105,804...	70,660...	66,681...	39,032

*No. of Week-Day Schools*

Receiving annual State grants . . . . .	37...	36...	25...	13
Not receiving ditto . . . . .	25...	13...	30...	24
Total	62	49	55	37

*No. of Scholars on Registers in Schools*

1. Annually aided by the State. Day schools...	5,337...	5,088...	2,784...	1,349
"                    Night ditto...	329...	171...	52...	21
2. Not annually aided by State. Day sch....	2,200...	1,950...	1,295...	1,136
"                    Night do....	152...	78...	55...	85

*Average No. of Week-Day Scholars in Attendance.*

1. In schools annually aided by State. Day...	3,798...	3,559...	2,050...	969
"                    Night...	190...	104...	32...	17
2. In schools not annually aided. Day ...	1,623...	1,386...	817...	763
"                    Night ...	117...	45...	43...	54
Total aver. No. of scholars under instruction	5,728	5,094	2,942	1,803

Percentage, on population of 1866, of such {	5.4, or	7.2, or	4.4, or	4.6, or
average No. . . . .	1 in	1 in	1 in	1 in
	18.4	13.8	22.6	21.6

Church of England Dame Schools . . . . .	4...	...	1...	
Average No. of scholars not included above...	88...	...	23...	

## III.

*General Summary for the Diocese, from Nat. Soc. Statistics for 1866-7.**Appendix III, p. 49.*

	Week-day Schools	Night Schools	Sunday Schools
Number of scholars on Registers . . .	21,628 ...	978 ...	16,339
Average number in attendance . . .	15,297 ...	598 ...	12,409

<sup>1</sup> These figures are chiefly valuable as showing the educational state of the four Welsh counties most closely connected with the diocese, rather than that of the diocese itself; for they include portions of Merioneth and Montgomery belonging to Bangor, and omit that portion of Shropshire which belongs to St. Asaph.

# SUMMARY OF THE DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS FOR SPIRITUAL PURPOSES IN 1866.

Deaneries	FOREIGN MISSIONS		HOME MISSIONS				AUXILIARY SOCIETIES						TOTALS																				
	Society for Pro- pagation of the Gospel	Church Missionary Society	Curates' Aid Society		Church Pastoral Aid Society	Church Building Society	National School Society		Soc. for Pro- motion of Christ. Knowl.	Bible Society.*		Other Societies																					
			£	s.			d.	£		s.	d.			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.														
Mold	95	12	3	24	1	2½	70	15	2½	34	7	8	6	1	0	23	14	0	22	4	1	31	1	0	£	s.	d.	307	16	5			
Wrexham	148	3	5	144	7	3½	50	7	9	42	14	2	55	1	0	31	11	8	112	8	10	50	17	3	£	s.	d.	648	3	7½			
Llangollen	32	17	11	127	17	4	20	19	11	16	9	4	8	8	0	3	17	3	6	16	6	42	2	1	£	s.	d.	272	13	6			
Oswestry	124	9	1½	145	19	1½	23	13	0½	56	1	1½	31	9	3	8	9	9½	36	4	8½	26	13	7	£	s.	d.	604	16	5½			
Denbigh	96	11	8	94	17	9	36	5	0	17	5	0	18	6	0	11	10	2	13	7	8	91	19	10	£	s.	d.	380	3	1			
Llanrwst	30	6	1	22	5	6½	1	11	5½	10	14	6	13	6	0	4	18	6	4	18	0	81	14	4	£	s.	d.	169	14	5			
St. Asaph	41	15	11	22	13	7½	20	6	9	1	9	2	135	19	2	13	11	1½	28	8	8	65	8	1	£	s.	d.	329	13	4			
Holywell	55	6	1	65	19	1½	5	2	3	7	4	5	2	12	6	4	12	10	1	6	0	37	10	7	£	s.	d.	195	15	1½			
Pool	135	19	10	64	13	1	17	7	0	6	4	8	47	11	5	19	5	6	15	7	6	35	12	0	£	s.	d.	357	0	0			
Llanfyllin	15	6	9	2	14	6	3	9	9				6	16	0	3	4	0	2	2	0	45	9	2½	£	s.	d.	82	13	2½			
Caedwen	85	10	3½	47	15	2½	25	12	2	20	19	6	9	7	0	9	10	2	6	19	6	20	17	0	£	s.	d.	234	11	2			
Bala	16	18	2	22	1	9	9	0	0	9	0	0	7	19	0	1	18	6	4	4	8½	19	6	10	£	s.	d.	86	8	11½			
Dyffryn Clwyd	42	8	2	7	8	7				6	1	0	6	1	0	12	19	5	3	3	0				£	s.	d.	77	13	8			
	921	5	8	792	14	1½	275	10	3½	188	1	10½	377	4	0	112	11	4	178	3	11	601	6	5½	300	5	3½	£	s.	d.	3747	2	11½

\* These are only given where the Clergy take an active interest in the Society. The average proportion contributed by Churchmen to its funds is computed at from one-half to two-thirds.

## RETURNS OF DITTO, 1856—1866.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1856	...	...	...	1861	...	...
1857	...	...	...	1862	...	...
1858	...	...	...	1863	...	...
1859	...	...	...	1864	...	...
1860	...	...	...	1865	...	...
	1075	5	5			
	1001	5	6 $\frac{1}{2}$			
	2073	4	5			
	2782	10	9 $\frac{1}{2}$			
	3091	14	10 $\frac{1}{4}$			
	3393	13	1 $\frac{1}{2}$			
	3766	4	10 $\frac{1}{2}$			
	4085	15	8 $\frac{1}{4}$			
	3507	6	8			
	3592	14	5 $\frac{1}{2}$			

THE CHARITY FOR THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF  
CLERGYMEN IN THE DIOCESE OF ST. ASAPH.

TRUSTEES: THE BISHOP, DEAN, AND CHAPTER.

BENEFACTIONS.

GIFTS.

Rev. John Tanner, late Precentor of St. Asaph	-	£108	0	0
Dowager Countess of Gower	- - -	60	0	0
Unknown	- - -	21	0	0
Mrs. Jones, Colomendy	- - -	21	0	0
Sir Foster Cunliffe, Bart.	- - -	20	0	0
Rev. Dr. Jeffreys, late Rector of Whitford	- -	10	0	0
Unknown, by Rev. Hope Eyton	- -	10	0	0
T. H. W.	- - -	25	0	0
Rev. G. Bouchery, out of Mr. Somerscale's money for charitable purposes	- - -	10	0	0
Mr. Bouchery	- - -	10	0	0
Mrs. Jane Ball	- - -	10	0	0
Mrs. Elizabeth Ball	- - -	10	0	0
Unknown, through Rev. H. H. Edwards	- -	15	0	0
R. Myddelton Biddulph, Esq.	- -	21	0	0
Rev. James Drake	- - -	10	0	0
Mrs. Parry, Glanrafon	- - -	5	0	0
Rev. William Cleaver	- - -	10	0	0
Rev. O. Owens, Llangyniew	- - -	10	0	0
R. W. Wynne, Esq., Garthwin	- -	50	0	0
Bishop Carey	- - -	19	0	0
Rev. W. Cleaver	- - -	91	10	0
Rev. H. H. Edwards	- - -	500	0	0
Mrs. Jones-Bateman	- - -	21	0	0
Bishop Short, "Mrs. Short's Money"	- -	1000	0	0
Captain Robson	- - -	50	0	0
John Taber, Esq.	- - -	1000	0	0
Portion (Bishop Carey's bequest relinquished by Miss Carey, the surviving tenant for life)	- -	2110	0	5



## LEGACIES.

Mrs. Elizabeth Wyke, Llwynegrin	-	-	-	£200	0	0
Rev. Gilbert Bouchery	-	-	-	10	0	0
Mrs. Elizabeth Evans, Llanymynech	-	-	-	94	0	0
John Barker, Esq., Brynmadyn	-	-	-	100	0	0
Rev. W. Worthington, V. Llanrhaiadr M.	-	-	-	10	0	0
Bishop Bagot	-	-	-	64	0	0
Mrs. Brown, Thurstaston Hall, Cheshire	-	-	-	200	0	0
Miss Dora Roberts, Denbigh	-	-	-	900	0	0

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## THE CAPITAL STOCK OF THE CHARITY.

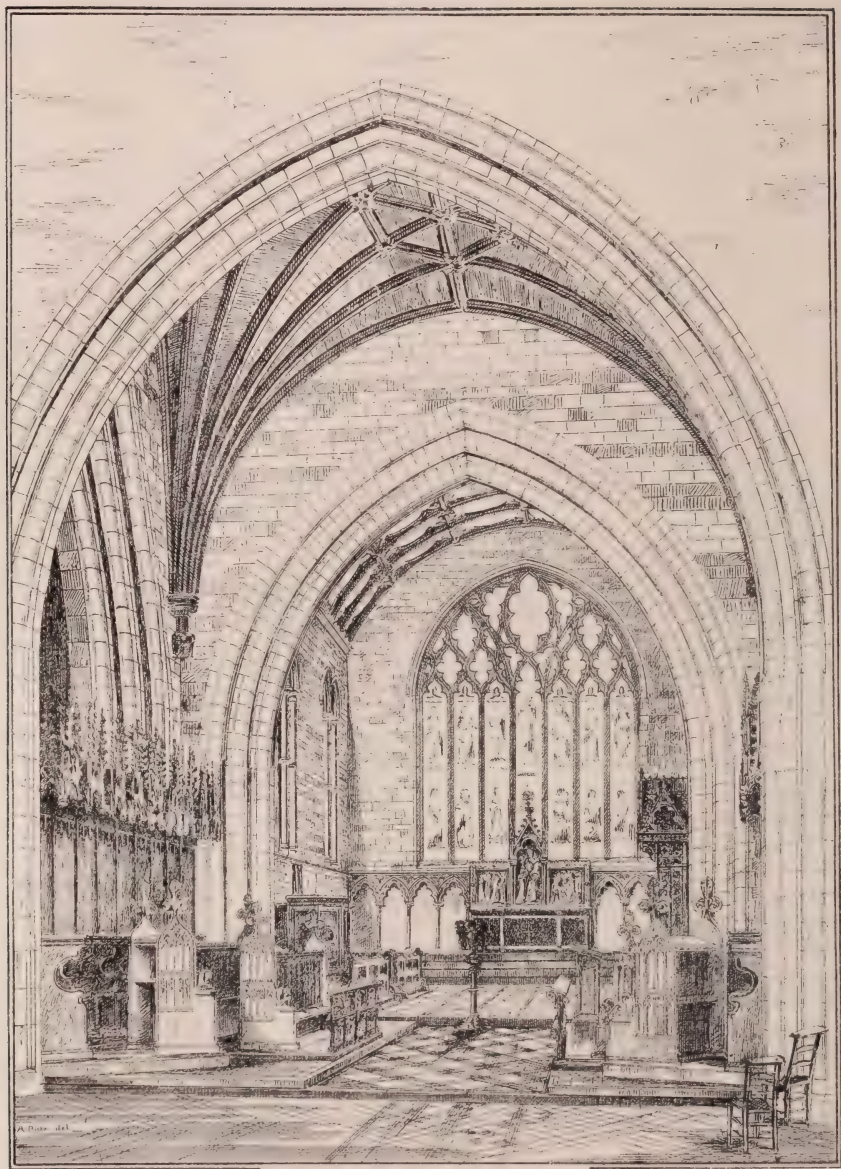
## FOR GENERAL PURPOSES.

Three per Cent. Consols. (£52 : 4 : 1 sold during the year)	£773	14	0
Three per Cent. Reduced	-	1500	0 0
On Mortgage of Tolls of Turnpike Road from St. Asaph to Conway, at £4 per Cent.	-	100	0 0
On Mortgage, at £4 per Cent.	- £4751	19	7 }
Ditto ditto further	-	48	0 5 }
		4800	0 0

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The Subscriptions for the year 1868-9 amounted to	-	£296	12	0
The Grants, nineteen in number, to	-	505	10	0





THE CHOIR. ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL

Photo Litho Whitcomb & Mann London

THE HISTORY OF  
THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH  
OF  
ST. ASAPH.





## THE HISTORY OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. ASAPH.

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THE dearth of authentic documents, which rendered it so difficult to elucidate the early history of the diocese, makes it equally or rather more difficult to elaborate that of the Cathedral. In a fragmentary *Life of St. Asaph*,<sup>1</sup> compiled probably in the twelfth century, from various sources of written and oral tradition, by one of the clergy of the Cathedral, it is asserted that Kentigern, having come to these parts from Menevia, at the invitation of Caswallawn (Law-Hir), "illustrissimus Rex et miles strenuissimus," and having selected the site for his monastery, under the special guidance already referred to,<sup>2</sup> was afterwards interrupted in his work by the fierce Maelgwn; whose miraculous conversion, however, was soon effected by the saint, and who became thenceforth the munificent patron of the undertaking. The account given of the first building is highly interesting: "Cum Sanctus Dei Kentigernus, monasterium construere studuisset in quo filii Dei dispersi salubriter pervenirent, more apium, ab oriente, occidente, aquilone, et meridie, primò Spiritu Sancto Filii Dei venientes, orationibus et divinis officiis expletis, viriliter et animose laborantes diversis operibus incumbabant, alii locum purgabant, alii complanabant, alii fundamenta preparabant. Quidam etiam gestantes, quidam *compaginantes, more Britonum, eccle-*

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<sup>1</sup> *Vita Sancti Asaphi*, in *Llyfr Côch*, p. 43: "Gloriosissimi Confessoris et Pontificis Assaph, *patroni nostri*, vitam per loca diversa, monasteria, cathedrales et baptismales ecclesias diligenti affectione quæsi vi.....Hoc igitur opusculum ex uno libro Latino et diversis codicillis nostro vulgari conscriptis Storiographorum Wallensium narrationibus simplici dictamine....duxi compaginandum."

<sup>2</sup> P. 1.

*siam et ceteras officinas, de lignis levigatis, subtiliter et festinanter construebant.*" This wooden structure is in complete accord with what is otherwise known of primitive British buildings, and is aptly borne out by the description of the early British church at Glastonbury, as at first "vergea", and then covered "ligneo tabulatu"; with its walls of wattle-work, "inferius per circuitum virgis torquatis muros perficientes,"<sup>1</sup>—a mode of construction practically illustrated in the existing case of Meverley Church in this diocese. The further intention, "pro loco et tempore de lapidibus dictum Monasterium construere", is to be assigned, doubtless, to the imagination of the biographer rather than to the mind of Kentigern; for stone buildings on any larger scale than cells or oratories, continued for long after this unadopted by the Britons,—"*mos insolitus Britannis*."<sup>2</sup>

Another document, discovered in London in 1256, by Bishop Anian I, in an old book relating to the liberties, rights, and endowments of the see, enumerates the donations made by Maelgwn to Kentigern on two occasions; and seems, in its anxiety to secure the claim of an indisputable antiquity, to gather up under that head all the property belonging to the see at the period when it was written. The names of the places or villas are—Altemeliden, Llanhassaph, Bryngwyn,<sup>3</sup> Dissert, Kilowain,<sup>4</sup> Llansannan, Bodeugan,<sup>4</sup> Henllan, Llanefydd,<sup>5</sup> Llangernyw, ...man (?), Bodgynwch,<sup>6</sup> Uchaled, Meriadog,<sup>4</sup> Mofoniog,<sup>5</sup> Hendrenwydd,<sup>7</sup> Pennant,<sup>8</sup> Llanarthu, Hafwen juxta Llanefydd,<sup>5</sup> Bodnod,<sup>8</sup> Maledyr,<sup>7</sup> Bodvalleg, Ardne-y-menllyn, Berryng,<sup>5</sup> Dolwynan, Bodlyman,<sup>9</sup> "et alias villas"; making the limits of the see extend from the city of Conway to the stream of Glatir,<sup>10</sup> near Basingwerk. It was soon afterwards enlarged so as to be coextensive with the kingdom of Powys.<sup>11</sup> The same document describes

<sup>1</sup> Bede and William of Malmesbury in *Councils*, i, 37, 38.

<sup>2</sup> The Welsh term for a building, *adeilad*, is an abiding witness to the material of the first structures.

<sup>3</sup> In Tremeirchion.

<sup>7</sup> In Llansannan.

<sup>4</sup> Townships in St. Asaph.

<sup>8</sup> In Eglwysfach.

<sup>5</sup> „ in Llanefydd.

<sup>9</sup> In Bettws yn Rhos.

<sup>6</sup> „ in Llangernyw.

<sup>10</sup> Glastir, Maes Glas, Greenfield.

<sup>11</sup> In the "*Rex Powysie nomine Maye*" of the Latin scribe, we may further recognise the name Mai- or Mei-fod, near which lay Mathrafal, the later residence of the princes of Powys.

Llanelwy (St. Asaph) as a “*civitas munita*” (fortified), an epithet sufficiently indicative of the dangers to which it was exposed ; and further points out the limits of the square mile of district to which the right of sanctuary extended, as Adwy Lleweni, Pen isaf Gell<sup>1</sup> Esgob, and Pont yr wddar.

Whatever the actual period of its history, above illustrated, there are no records that profess to describe it during the long interval that elapsed from its foundation to the middle of the thirteenth century. Nor is it matter of surprise, so much as of regret, that it should be so : the very silence is expressive ; its situation exposing it to the attacks of turbulent natives and of foreign invaders,—Mercian and Norman by land, and freebooting Dane by sea ; the perishableness of the material with which it was constructed, as implied in its destruction by *fire*, by the soldiers of Henry III, in A.D. 1245, and again, in A.D. 1278, by a sallying party from Rhuddlan, and especially in the readiness with which, on this latter occasion, the plea of accidental burning was admitted ; the very necessity of fortifying the town, chiefly, no doubt, in self-defence ; but partly also, it may be fairly supposed, as a partial check to the neighbouring fortress of Rhuddlan ; the silence of *Domesday* ; the description of the see, in 1125, as “*pro vastitate et barbarie episcopo vacantem*” ; its omission in the catalogue given by Henry of Huntingdon, c. A.D. 1135 ; and its description by Giraldus Cambrensis, in A.D. 1188, as “*paupercula sedes Lanelvensis*,”—all help to account for the “*altum silentium*” in which this part of its early history is involved.

One of the earliest records of any importance that we meet with, is an Agreement entered into, in A.D. 1266, between the chapter and one Maurice or Meurig, who was appointed guardian of the temporalities of the see on the death of Bishop Anian I.<sup>2</sup> It is valuable as showing that, although the English custom of seeking first the royal license to elect, and afterwards the royal assent to the election, had been admitted both by the bishop and chapter ; not altogether willingly, however, for their words are,

<sup>1</sup> Probably Coed Esgob in Talar, and Rhyd y Gwtter in the Waun.

<sup>2</sup> *Llyfr Côch*, ii, 12 ; *Councils*, i, 495.



"consuetudini et dignitati quas illustris rex Anglie habet...in Ecclesia Anglicana...*obviare nolentes*,"<sup>1</sup> a certain voice and power in the patronage were still reserved to the chapter and clergy; for the guardian not only promises to maintain their privileges intact, but also engages not to bestow any vacant prebend, in any part of the diocese, without the advice and concurrence of the dean and archdeacon, nor to fill up any vacant canonry without the consent of the whole chapter. Besides this, there are other points in the stipulation relating to discipline, to tithes, to the mortuaries of recluses, nuns, and lepers, to the goods of deceased clergy, and to reliefs. In the case of tithes he agrees not to exact them of lands originally tithed to an ecclesiastic, and afterwards cultivated by ecclesiastics, whether such lands happened to be inherited or rented.<sup>2</sup> The expression employed on the occasion is important,<sup>3</sup> and supplies a strong confirmation of what has been already said<sup>4</sup> of the nature of the early endowments of the Church. This reference, moreover, suggests a further inquiry as to the special endowments of the cathedral clergy and the maintenance of the fabric. The question has already been partly answered in the list of villis bestowed upon Kentigern and his successors; villis which, with the addition of the grants at St. Martin's in 1271, and of the manor of Llandegla in 1278, filled the goodly list we shall meet with in the Taxation of 1291, and receives a further solution from the connexion of the surrounding parishes as *capellæ* to the mother church, the dignitaries of which derived their *prebendæ* from the great tithes of Henllan, Llannefydd, Llansannan, Llanfair-talhaiarn, Llangernyw, Tremeirchion, Abergele, and Disserth; to which must be added those of Llanasa, appropriated to the fabric of the Cathedral, and those of the more distant Gwyddelwern, of which four-fifths were assigned to the support of the vicars-choral. All these were originally

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, Append. v, p. xxviii.

<sup>2</sup> An exception is made in the case of 'Sanctuaries', probably for the reason that, like that of Llanrwst, they were appropriated to the sustentation of the fabric of the Cathedral.

<sup>3</sup> "Quod nos, tamdiu in custode existamus, aliquas decimas *de terris persone ecclesiastice decimatis* et postea a personis ecclesiasticis cultis, sive sint conducte, sive fuerint *hereditarie possesse*, nullatenus exigamus."

<sup>4</sup> Page 14.

bestowed, there can be little doubt, under some such conditions as specified in chapter II,<sup>1</sup> by the first patrons of the church, in order to secure its services for their families and tenants in perpetuity.<sup>2</sup> In those days, however, as vast districts were evangelised by missionaries from the *collegium*, the endowments were bestowed on the body corporate ("Deo et ecclesiæ"); and the clergy, in return, undertook to provide for the spiritual wants of the locality.<sup>3</sup> Their appropriation to specific offices and persons took place at a later period.

It must be remembered, too, that the church, in addition to her essentially spiritual aspect as a messenger of peace and love to sinners, soon obtained a vast influence as a humanising and mediating power; being, in fact, the only effectual check to the violence and oppression of a rude age. Hence, too, she acquired by degrees, partly through direct grants from patron-nobles, but mainly through the support of the people who learnt to look upon her as their protection from the tyranny of their lords, certain civil privileges which at first grew out of custom rather than were defined by law, but had in the time of Hywel Dda assumed a definite and recognised position. In later times, when her increasing power and more ambitious views began to excite the jealousy of the State, frequent disputes arose as to the extent and character of these privileges. Of this a memorable illustration is afforded by the famous controversy between the bishop and chapter on the one hand, and Llewelyn, Prince of Wales, on the other. Although already touched upon in its bearing upon

<sup>1</sup> Page 14.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. Gen. xviii, 19. If I may hazard a conjecture as to the earliest donors of these endowments, I would say that the nearest clue is to be found in the ancient "moduses", which retained unaltered for centuries a definite payment; small, out of all proportion, as compared with other tithes of later date, but of a very different value at the period of their first institution.

<sup>3</sup> It may be well to note here that these endowments were made to the national British Church before her absorption in that of Canterbury and Rome, and even before the latter had adopted those innovations which were and are the main ground of our separation from her. The grants made, in this diocese at least, during the period of Roman supremacy, and many of the earlier ones which were then appropriated, were either alienated at the dissolution of the religious houses, or sold during the Commonwealth.

the general history of the diocese,<sup>1</sup> it deserves to be treated here at greater length, as well for its intrinsic importance as for the part borne in it by the Cathedral body, who, from their wealth, their organisation, and the vigorous leadership of their bishop, Anian II, were well suited to stand forth as the champions of their cause.

In the grant made by Llewelyn to Bishop Anian, and dated at Mold on St. Philip and St. James' Day (May 1), 1272, the prince enjoined his bailiffs in Berwetwlad<sup>2</sup> to observe "omnes consuetudines meliores, quas predecessores nostri cum suis antecessoribus Episcopis observaverunt, seu nos fecimus observari, et hoc quoad feodum laycalem," adding that any dispute thereupon should be settled by the verdict of a competent local jury. In this language we seem to detect an anticipation of coming controversy, for the terms "meliores" and "hoc quoad feodum laycalem," evidently bore some special reference. Nor was the anticipation unfounded, as events soon proved; for Anian at once, "apud eundem locum, eodem anno," published the grant, appending to it a construction much wider than it appears to have been intended to bear,—"*consuetudines universas per totum dominium nostrum et feodum laycalem volumus et precipimus firmiter observari*,"—and acknowledging his readiness to accept the jury's verdict "in animas suas et super nomen Domini depnendum"; a limitation of no small import when read by the light of the excommunications so freely employed in this and other cases.

An occasion of dispute seems soon to have offered itself, for in 1274 the controversy had long since assumed a serious aspect, "dudum controversia fuisset orta," and a synod was held in the cathedral church, on the 19th of October, to take evidence as to the relative rights of the prince and the bishop. It was there found "that in times past the bishops and chapter of St. Asaph had exercised all civil jurisdiction, capital and other, in their own courts; but that in process of time they had, for the better execution of justice, entered into a compact with the secular power, by which they ceded to it the fines for ordinary felony,

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<sup>1</sup> Page 41.

<sup>2</sup> The "Mid-Land" lying between the rivers Conway and Clwyd.



and the right to condemn and put to death vassals of the Church ; but on the understanding that they should not lay hands on any accused person without the previous consent of the church-steward ; and that if he was clearly guilty, and paid a fine for his release, one half of it should go to the bishop and chapter.”<sup>1</sup> Hereupon the bishop at once writes to the archbishop a letter of complaint against Llewelyn, accusing him of robbing the Church of her rights and privileges, especially in the above matter of fines ; and also of imposing certain payments and exactions on ecclesiastics according to his mere pleasure, and without the bishop’s consent ; and even of making the churches rateable to himself. “Ad hoc, quod absurdum est audire, ex literis vestris premissis satis elici potuit, quod nos tallias, collectas seu exactiones, personis imponimus ecclesiasticis ad libitum, Ecclesie contradicente prelato ; quantum ad hoc, ecclesias ipsas nobis facientes censuales.” To these last charges Llewelyn gives a flat denial (“omnino negamus”) ; and to the other calumny he replies that he was only exercising a right which had all along belonged to him as prince, but which the bishop was now assuming to himself,—“tam predecessores nostri quam nos, temporibus predecessorum suorum, ac diu retroactis temporibus usque ad hec tempora fuimus in possessione vel quasi pacifica libertatum et consuetudinum predictarum quas sibi vendicat.” And even here he professes his readiness to concede the privileges claimed, if the bishop can bring forward *genuine* charters, made at the time, to substantiate his claims. These, however, do not appear to have been forthcoming ; but instead thereof Pope Gregory X sent “Letters of Monition” to the prince, and deputed certain officers to restrain him, if need be, “per censuram ecclesiasticam.” The need did occur, for Llewelyn paid no heed to the monition or the threat : indeed, he was at that time hard pressed by Edward I ; and his necessity became, alas ! the ambitious Anian’s opportunity ; for Anian applied, in 1276, to the English king, and obtained from him a confirmation of the liberties of his see ; and this he followed up the same year by summoning a grand synod of his clergy and laity, on the 7th of December, to draw

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<sup>1</sup> *Councils*, i, 502.



up a declaration of grievances against Llewelyn, to be presented to the Archbishop of Canterbury, "ut etiam ipse correctionis remedium apponat in eisdem." Their "Gravamina"<sup>1</sup> are specified under no fewer than the following twenty-nine heads, which shall be their own commentary :

1. Llewelyn refuses permission to the bishops to make wills ; and, if made, holds them of no force, but takes possession of all their moveable goods, according to his own will and pleasure.

2. Other people's property found among them, he takes in the same way.

3. Gifts made by the bishop during illness, or on his deathbed (as of horses and such like), he, after the death, reclaims for himself, as having been unjustly alienated.

4. His bailiffs plunder, rather than protect, the episcopal manors, when they are put in charge of them during a vacancy in the see.

5. When a vacancy occurs in the see he does not allow the canons either to fix the day, or to make an election, without his leave ; or, if they do, he punishes them arbitrarily.

6. He does not permit prisoners to make their confession to the priest, except in the presence of his own officers ; and this, in order that he may discover their accomplices, and punish them accordingly by fine or death.

7. He does not allow the validity of wills, unless made during a mortal sickness ; otherwise he claims the goods as his own.

8. His bailiffs hold their courts on Sundays and holydays, in churchyards and other consecrated spots ; sometimes even in the churches themselves, though often warned, "sub pœna canonica eis infligenda," not to do so.

9. He takes the whole instead of half the fines exacted of a vassal of the Church, when caught thieving, or receiving stolen goods, or informed against by king's evidence.

10. He does the same also wherever a vassal of the Church is caught fighting with one of his own ; whereas he ought to receive only half when it occurs in his territory, and none at all when on the land of the bishop and chapter.

11. Where vassals have dwellings in both territories (*e. g.*, the Church and the prince), he compels them to reside on their lay feoff, whereas in olden times they were allowed their choice.

12. He threatens to appoint foresters in the Church's woods, a right always freely exercised by the bishop and chapter.

13. He takes the whole of the fine for rape committed within the Church's territory, whereas half belonged to them.

14. In case of a vassal of the Church committing homicide within their territory, his goods belonged to them, his person to the state ;

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<sup>1</sup> *Llyfr Côch*, 39-44 ; *Councils*, i, 512-516.

the prince takes all ; and does the same also with the fines for arson and forfeit, half of which are due to them.

15. Likewise half the fine for contempt of summons for personal service to the prince.

16. Likewise, on the occasion of a vacancy, he assumes to define, according to his pleasure, the boundaries of the Church's vill.

17. Item, he seizes and imprisons vassals of the Church, to her prejudice ; a thing unheard of in former times, except on the most serious occasions, and then only in the presence and with the consent of the bishop.

18. He compels heirs to enter upon their inheritance, whether they will or no, and grants the right to illegitimate children equally with legitimate ; but refuses it to females, even in the absence of other claimants.

19. He and his bailiffs compel the vassals of the Church, equally with his own, to transport his goods for him from place to place, and at their own charge.

20. He takes possession of their inheritance whenever, from his own fault, they transfer their allegiance to the English realm.

21. He assumes the punishment of crimes committed in churchyards and other consecrated ground, and keeps to himself the whole of the fines.

22. He reserves to himself the cognisance of breaches of the marriage law.

23. He compels the clergy to submit to the jurisdiction of the civil courts.

24. He insists on the forfeiture of bail in certain specific cases.

25. For a certain money consideration he has permitted some of his vassals to rob Basingwerk Abbey of several carucates of land. He still wilfully persists in similar practices in other cases, and has even deprived some clergy of their inheritance, contrary to the laws of his country.

26. His officers sometimes demand as dues procurations of the clergy and vassals of the Church ; and, if refused, use personal violence, and even carry off their goods.

27. He compels all who inherit property under him, irrespectively of their order, to submit, if challenged, to a trial in his courts, or else to surrender the claim. He inflicts other hardships and extortions on the clergy, and will not even allow them to punish their own servants, in order that he may secure the fines for himself ; and if they venture in aught to resist, he seizes their lay possessions, and retains them until satisfied ; but is even harder upon them if they venture to remonstrate, or apply elsewhere for aid.

28. He denies to the parochial clergy, in some places, a common right to the woods, pastures, and turbaries.

29. The Vill of Lanerost, which has long while belonged, with all its rights, to the Church of St. Asaph, he has not only taken, but retains possession of, save that he allows an annual payment of 5*s.* for the same.

The crusade ("votiva expeditio"), which soon after this set out under the sanction of the Archbishop and the leadership of the Earl of Warwick and others ("quos reputavimus Deo devotos"), committed such sacrileges<sup>1</sup> as to call forth a stern remonstrance from the Archbishop, and a plaintive wail from Anian, who found himself powerless to check the mischief he had invited, and soon became the victim of his own ambition. The storm which had been making havoc of the more distant parts of the diocese, now enveloped the Cathedral itself in flames. Anian, chafing but powerless, full of righteous indignation, but without a friend to turn to,—for he had long ago estranged the Welsh, and had now, moreover, fallen under the displeasure of the English king,—endeavoured to persuade Archbishop Peckham to espouse his cause, and, as it were, of his own free will, as spiritual guardian of the Church, to proceed to launch his excommunications against the culprits. But the cautious Peckham, whilst professing a ludicrous regard for his brother's feelings ("salva reverentia vestrâ"), finds ample reasons for deliberation and delay. It was pleaded, and probably with truth, that the fire had occurred by accident, and that in fair fighting, according to the guerilla warfare of the country; and that, moreover, the place (St. Asaph) itself had been a regular harbour and rendezvous for the enemies of the King, who had from it attacked his castle at Rhuddlan, and committed murder and havoc by fire and sword. Besides, those holy men, the Friars Preachers, must have known the circumstances, and they would never have admitted them to the Sacraments if they had wilfully wrought so great a misfortune to the church. To make matters worse, he rates the unhappy Bishop for deserting his flock at a time of so much peril to them; and reminds him, by way of a final cut, how very different, under somewhat similar circumstances, had been the conduct of the Bishop of Norwich "of blessed memory."<sup>2</sup>

Edward I was desirous, mainly, no doubt, from motives of policy, to transfer the Cathedral from St. Asaph to his newly built and fortified town at Rhuddlan, and with this object wrote a letter to the Pope (Martin IV), asking for his sanction, and

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<sup>1</sup> P. 45.

<sup>2</sup> Roger de Skerwyng, A.D. 1265-1278.



offering at the same time a suitable site and a thousand marks for the building. The Bishop and canons also fell in with the design, from motives of convenience and safety. St. Asaph (writes the Bishop) is situated in a country place with hardly any population, and so exposed to the attacks of the insurgents that it is not safe for his canons and himself to approach it, much less dwell there. To which the King adds, that the body of the great confessor, St. Asaph himself, was liable to be carried away by any band of these marauders; and that even on the great festivals the attendance was so small that the canons had all the service to themselves and the walls.<sup>1</sup> Strong as these several reasons may have seemed, they came to nothing; others more effectual counterbalanced them, and orders were given to rebuild the Cathedral on the old site.

A favourite method of raising the contributions of the faithful was thereupon resorted to in furtherance of the work, and Archbishop Peckham issued a Circular Letter to the clergy and laity of the Welsh dioceses, and those of Hereford and of Lichfield and Coventry, recommending to their favour the canons of St. Asaph, who went travelling about the country with their famous text of the Gospel,<sup>2</sup> to solicit alms. This must have been a considerable source of revenue, for nine years after we learn from an entry in *Llyfr Côch*, that the amount collected during the three preceding years was £95 : 6 : 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ ,<sup>3</sup> a sum equivalent to nearly £3,000 in present value. Edward, moreover, having now succeeded in his great design of annexing the Principality to his crown, and having further indulged his love of building by removing the monks of Aberconway to Maenan, was the more easily moved to take into consideration the vast injury done to the church by his soldiers during the war. At the sug-

<sup>1</sup> Browne Willis, ii, 50-54; App. xx, xxi.

<sup>2</sup> "Either of our Lord Jesus Christ," or "according to St. John," according as we adopt the termination *en* or *es*; for further consideration inclines me to the belief that the names given (p. 21) are corruptions of Welsh; *e. g.*, "Evengyl Yr Evengyl, Ioan, Iesu."

<sup>3</sup> "35a.—Obligaciones Evangelii Spissi (qu. S'tissimi?) Assavens. a'o 1293 per tres annos 95 lib. 6 sol. 10 den. ob. per manus D'ni David, vicar de Corwaen."



gestion of Peckham, and to relieve his royal conscience of scruple, if he had any, a commission was appointed to examine into the several cases, and assess the damage on the spot.<sup>1</sup> The commissioners, in the present instance, were the Prior of Rhuddlan, the Warden of Llanfaes, and Dominus R. de Brochton, and their award was £100 sterling, which sum was paid over to the dean and archdeacon at Chester on All Souls' Day, 1284.<sup>2</sup> This was in addition to twenty librates of land, which he had previously, in A.D. 1279 (*i. e.*, four years before the proclamation of peace), given to the bishop and chapter "*propter incendia et diversa enormia predictæ ecclesiæ....tempore guerræ facta.*" These lands had been assigned by Guncelin de Badysmore and Howel ap Gruffydd, his commissioners, in the vills of Disserth, Dincolyn, Nannerch, Coedymynydd, and Rhywlyfnwyd; and amounted in all to forty-nine acres, valued at £10.<sup>3</sup>

The work of building was, no doubt, carried on as vigorously as the resources would allow; but we have no means of stating exactly how long it occupied. The free tenants of the dean and chapter, we know, were bound to find six competent labourers to work in the "Red Rock" every day of the year, except on Sundays and holydays, "*pro operationibus Ecclesiæ Cathedralis*"; and this obligation continued in force, though perhaps not in exercise, until it was commuted, in the time of Bishop Spridlington, for an annual payment of ten *mercs*, thence known as "*Ardreth y Garreg Gôch*" (the rent of the Red Rock); indeed, I think we may see some proofs of their labour in the red sandstones that still give variety to the southern and western walls of the nave. Perhaps, too, we shall not be wrong if we assign to this period the present *form* of the Cathedral, that of a cross, as distinguishing it from the earlier British oblong;<sup>4</sup> for the epithet, "*nova capella*", applied to the south transept in the confirmation of the appropriation of Nantglyn, A.D. 1336, may be construed to imply a new feature in the building, as well as a new use to which it was applied.

Turning from the fabric to the ecclesiastical body, we find

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, ii, 37, App. xiv.

<sup>2</sup> *Ib.*, ii, 49, App. xviii.

<sup>3</sup> Br. Willis, ii, 81, App. xxxi.

<sup>4</sup> Page 9.

invaluable information both as to their constitution and revenues in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 18 Edward I, otherwise called Pope Nicholas's Taxation.<sup>1</sup> From this we learn that the Chapter consisted of fifteen canons, among whom were reckoned the bishop and the archdeacon, who, as well as the dean and six other canons, received a much larger income from special *prebendæ* than the rest, who derived their share from the corporate property only. Besides these, however, there were five portionists, who derived their stipend then, as now, mainly from Gwyddelwern.

## SPIRITUALIA.

*Ecclesia Cathedralis de Sancto Asaph' cum Capellis suis et Canonie in eadem et Porc'o'es alie o'es taxant' Modo subscripto.*

	Taxatio.			Decime.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Canoniam D'ni Ep'i tam in ip' Eccl'ia q' in capellis ejusdem P'ventus, Redditus et Obvenc'o'es p' totu' Ep'atu' ad ip'm spectantes taxant	-	166	13 4 ...	16	13	4
Canoniam Archid' in ip'a Eccl'ia et capellis suis, p'ventus Redditus Obvenc'o'es ad ip'm p'tinentes, una cu' Rectoria Eccl'ie de Abergelev, que est annexa Dignitati sue Archidiaconati	-	34	6 8 ...	3	8	8
Canoniam Decani in ip'a Eccl'ia et Capellis suis P'ventus, Redditus et Obvenc'o'es ad ip'm p'tinentes [Eccl'ia de Henllan est Capella Cathedralis Eccl'ie Prebend' Decan'.]	-	6	13 4 ...	0	13	4
Canoniam Ithael Apjorverth in ip'a eccl'ia -	-	1	0 0 ...	0	2	0*
Canoniam Ithael ap D'd in ip'a eccl'ia et p'ventus sui ap' Kilfurn -	-	3	6 8 ...	0	6	8*
Canoniam Thome p'sb'ri in parochia ip'ius Eccl'ie et in Capella de Dymneychyaun & Langernyw cu' p'tin' suis -	-	16	13 4 ...	1	13	4
Canoniam de Kefnerth p'sb'ri in ip'a Eccl'ia et p'ventus in Capella de Aldmelyden et eande' Canoniam p'tinent' -	-	7	6 8 ...	0	14	8
Canoniam Ithael Vachan in ip'a eccl'ia & p'ventus in Capella de Lanveyr Dalhaeayn ad eande' Canoniam p'tinent' -	-	8	0 0 ...	0	16	0
Canoniam D'd ap Lowarch in ip'a Eccl'ia et proventus in Capella de Lanveyr p'd'c'a ad eande' Canoniam p'tinent' -	-	8	0 0 ...	0	16	0
Canoniam Bledyn ap Adaf in eade' eccl'ia et p'ventus alii omnes ad eande' Canoniam spectantes -	-	4	6 8 ...	0	8	8

<sup>1</sup> Pp. 54-56.

\* Et q' alibi est beneficiat'.

	Taxatio.			Decime.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Canonia Mag'ri Bened'ci in eade' eccl'ia & p'ventus alii ad eam p'tinent'	-	-	-	0	15	0 ... 0 1 6*
Canonia Mag'ri Anyany in ip'a Eccl'ia et p'ventus alii ad eam p'tinent'	-	-	-	1	0	0 ... 0 2 0*
Canonia Lowelyn Vachan in eadem eccl'ia et p'ventus alii ad eam spectantes	-	-	-	0	10	0 ... 0 1 0*
Canonia Will'i de Brygwol in eadem eccl'ia et p'ventus alii ad eam spectantes	-	-	-	0	10	0 ... 0 1 0*
Canonia Howel gryc in eade' eccl'ia et p'ventus alii ad eam spect'	-	-	-	0	15	0 ... 0 1 6*
Porcio Kenewr ap Bledyn in paroch' Eccl'ie Assaphens' et porcio sua in eccl'ia de Gwydelwern	-	-	-	4	6	8 ... 0 8 8
Porcio Meyfel p'sb'ri ibide' & apud Gwydelwern	-	-	-	3	6	8
Porcio Kenewrici ap' Ad' p'sb'ri ibide' & apud Gwydelwern	-	-	-	3	6	8
Porcio Phi' p's'b'ri ib'm & apud Gwydelwern	-	-	-	3	6	8
Porcio Adaf ap Madok p'sb'rti & apud Gwydelwern	-	-	-	3	6	8
S'ma £287 10 0						

## TEMPORALIA.

*Bona Ep'i Assavens'.*

Ep'us h'et man'iu' de S'c'o Assaph' cu' Altmoledym <sup>1</sup> & Dymolyn <sup>2</sup> quinq' caruc' terr' cu' redd' & molend' & aliis com'oditat'	-	-	-	7	0	4 <sup>3</sup> ... 0 14 11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Item Landegla <sup>4</sup> cu' una caruc' & molend' & com'od' & redd'	-	-	-	2	11	0 ... 0 5 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Item ap'd S'c'm <sup>5</sup> ..... duas caruc' <sup>6</sup> terr' cu' aliis com'odit' <sup>7</sup>	-	-	-	1	12	0 (14) 0 3 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Item de p'quis' p'd'c'ar' villar'	-	-	-	1	0	0 ... 0 2 0
Item <sup>8</sup> h'et in ..... Bodgenen, Meyradok, Warymel insula ..... de redd'	-	-	-	5	6	10 ... 0 10 8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Item <sup>9</sup> Crathlan ..... de redd' & p'quis'	-	-	-	4	3	8 ... 0 8 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
S'ma honor' d'ni Ep'i - £22 2 10						
S'ma decime - - 2 4 3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>						

<sup>1</sup> Istemeledym (Meliden).<sup>2</sup> Dycolyn (Dincolyn).<sup>3</sup> £7 : 9 : 4.<sup>4</sup> Langedela.<sup>5</sup> "S'c'm Martini & S'c'm Leonard'."<sup>6</sup> "Duas car' & tres bovat' t're cu' aliis com'od'."<sup>7</sup> £21 : 6 : 8.<sup>8</sup> "Item h't in Botnoc (Bodnod), Lanrust, Bremman (Bryngwyn), Bodgeneu (Bodeugan), Caeryadoc (Meriadog), Wayno (Vaenol), Insula Pengnen (Pengwern), Cansyman (Llansannan), Langner (Langernyn), de redd' £5 : 6 : 10."<sup>9</sup> "It'm Trathlan, Renant (Trenant), Henlan, Bodingenan, Lanhudith (Llanfeydd), Kyllawen (Cilowen), Bregnen (Bryngwyn), Tardys (Caerwys), Nantvenez (Nannerch), de redd' et p'quis' £4 : 3 : 8."

			Taxatio.				Decime.			
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
<i>Bona Canonicoꝝ.</i>										
Canonici h'ent in Bodnod <sup>1</sup> .....	de redd'	-	-	6	5	11	...	0	12	7¼
Item <sup>2</sup> in .....	de redd'	-	-	3	2	10	...	0	6	3½
Item de p'quis' villar' o'i'm'	-	-	-	1	13	4	...	0	3	4
S'ma bonor' Canonicoꝝ Assavens'	£11	2	1							
S'ma decime	-	-	1	2	2¾					

To these statistics of the income of the bishop and chapter, if we add the following "Memorandum"<sup>3</sup> of the date A.D. 1305, we shall also see whence came the funds for the sustentation of the fabric :

"M<sup>d</sup> q<sup>d</sup> de infrascript' Receptor Eccl'ie Assavens' debet.

"De porc'o'e ejusd' eccl'ie in eccl'ia de Corvaen.

"De subsidio.

"De finibus tenent' de Llanelwy incident' p' annu' ab op'e consueto circa Rupem Rubeam p' a<sup>o</sup> D'ni m<sup>o</sup>ccc<sup>o</sup> tertio.

"De ..... pro anno D'ni m<sup>mo</sup> ccc<sup>mo</sup> quarto.

"De fine sive subsidio anevar (annuar ?) ejusd' ville.

"De legatis ad fabrica' eccl'ie Asavens

"De porc'o'ibus provenientibus per questuar' ad fabrica' eccl'ie sive sint ejusd' eccl'ie sive extranei.

"De amerciamentis provenientibus pro defectu operis in Rupe Rubea.

"De amerciamentis concessis ap Ep'o ad eand' fabrica' viz' de D'no Roberto de Creuquez (?) xls. de adultera Madoci ap Robert una marca, de D'na Iselda de S'co Creuquez vis. viiij<sup>d</sup>.

"De amerciamentis ministroru' eccl'ie pro suis defectibus ad fab eccl'ie assign'.

"De redempe'o'ibus penitenciaru' solemnibus vel' aliaru'.

"De deposito penes D'num.

"De den' provenientibus ex terre dicte eccl'ie legatis.

"De subsidio capellaru' eccl'ie Assavens' et de no'ibus non solven'.

"De exitibus san'tuarii de Llanrwd."

Turning from the fabric and the clergy of the Cathedral, let us now see what, and of what kind, were the services which were performed there. Whatever they had previously been, and almost all that we know of them is the complaint of Edward I, already

<sup>1</sup> "Canonici h'nt in Bodnod, Languman, & Lanrusty, Bren'an, Bodguenen, & Lansymnan, Teflez, Lanhudich, Henlan, Meryedok, Veynol, & Insula de (Pengwern), de redd' £6 : 5 : 11."

<sup>2</sup> "It'm in Pengnernen, Bodguenn'e, Kyllewyn, Brengven, Tarwys, Disert, Dymcolyn, Lanaurez de redd' £3 : 2 : 10."

<sup>3</sup> *Llyfr Côch*, p. 91.



alluded to, "quod canonici dicte Ecclesie non solum in ferialibus, verum etiam in magnis et solemnibus Festivitatibus, Divina coguntur ipsis solis et lapidibus celebrare,.....cum propter loci distantiam nullos habeant auditores"; though, perhaps, another reason for this paucity of attendance might be found in the unpopularity of the then chapter, owing to the part they had taken against Llewelyn. Whatever, then, the earlier services may have been, we may conclude, from the Injunctions of Peckham, that those in the new Cathedral were by comparison both more frequent and more impressive, owing alike to the more full and regular attendance of the clergy now required, and to the more musical and imposing ceremonial adopted, as became the model church of the diocese. Such peculiarities, too, of vestments and of clerical attire as may have hitherto been retained (and this see was the last to lose its national and independent characteristics), were now laid aside, and all was conformed to the English exemplars, "Quia Assavensis Ecclesia Cathedralis est toti diocesi posita in exemplum, sacris canonibus adherentes statuimus ut domus decani et canonicorum, quatenus fieri poterit, prope et circa ecclesiam construantur. Et ut canonici in claustris ambitu et ecclesie capas et almutia deferant canonice honestatis, juxta quod in aliis ecclesiis cathedralibus per provinciam fieri consuevit. Ipsa tamen ecclesia officietur celebritate condigna tam in missâ quam in horis canonicis omni die."<sup>1</sup>

With a view to the further improvement of the services, we find the following ordinances<sup>2</sup> passed in chapter on the 6th March, 1296: that all the clergy beneficed in Gwyddelwern<sup>3</sup> should attend all the cathedral services at the canonical hours daily, under pain of one penny fine for each absence; and that all the beneficed priests in the same church should in their turn perform divine service musically, according to the arrangement of the precentor. It was also further ordained in the same

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, ii, 42, App. xv, et suprà, p. 49.    <sup>2</sup> Ibid., ii, 75, App. xxvi.

<sup>3</sup> The *Taxatio* of 1291, *sub voce* Gwyddelwern, states that "illa ecclesia est decem vicariorum in Ecclesia Asaphensi, quibus incumbunt missam celebrare de Virgine ibidem et eidem interesse"; including, apparently, in that number not only the vicars-choral, but also the rest of the working staff of the Cathedral, the clerks or *vicarii* of the respective prebendaries.

chapter, and with the mutual consent of the members, that the dean and the prebendaries of Vaenol and Llanefydd respectively, for the time being, should each find a priest, who should be a good singer, and skilled in the science of music, to serve their cures in this respect (the cathedral service), and to be present at the daily services with the vicars choral, under the above mentioned penalty ; that the archdeacon should find a priest or a layman skilled in vocal or instrumental music ; that the prebendaries of Meliden and Llanfair (two) should find four singing boys or choristers between them ; and lastly, that the prebendary of Meifod should pay ten shillings a year in augmentation of the salary of the water-carrier, to secure his attendance also with the other ministers in the daily service. In furtherance of the same object, Bishop Leoline de Bromfield (Llewelyn ap Ynyr), on the 11th of April in the same year, appropriated the rectorial tithes of Llansilin and Rhuddlan to the dean and chapter for the general fund ; and at the same time renewed a former appropriation of Llanasa, "*ad fabricam et luminaria*", thereby relieving Corwen of a charge which, in pursuance of an ancient precedent, had recently been laid upon it.

These appropriations were followed, in A.D. 1336, by that of Nantglyn, for the support of the ten vicars (by whom, no doubt, were meant the vicars-choral and the vicars, or representatives above specified, of the several prebendaries), and of such other expenses as were incidental to the Cathedral. In this appropriation there is a distinct reservation of a competent stipend for a resident vicar, and the residue was to be apportioned by the dean and chapter. In return, however, for this increase to their stipend, the vicars were to say two masses daily in the new transept on the south side ; one of the Blessed Virgin, and another for the souls of the departed as well as the living benefactors of the see.<sup>1</sup> A similar condition was attached to the appropriation of Llanyblodwel to the bishop's uses, A.D. 1377.<sup>2</sup> He was to find "*quendam capellanum Missam de Sancta Maria et alia divina singulis diebus in capella ipsius Episcopi pro animabus avi, patris et aliorum progenitorum nostrorum et pro salubri*

<sup>1</sup> P. 61.<sup>2</sup> P. 63.

statu nostro dum viximus ac pro anima nostra cum ab hac luce migravimus et animabus omnium fidelium defunctorum.”<sup>1</sup>

Three years later, on June 26th, 1380, in consideration still of the smallness of the stipends of the ten vicars or chaplains as they are here called (“quorum quatuor sunt perpetui vicarii, dudum in Ecclesia Cathedrali Assavensi de certis possessionibus dotati, et sex minores vicarii de choristis absque certa sustentatione ordinati”), Bishop Spridlington procured the appropriation of Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, with its chapelries, for the improvement of their stipends and other expenses of the Cathedral.<sup>2</sup>

Two days after this the same bishop obtained the royal license to annex the chapelries of Pole and “Kegitva” to the mother church of “Meyvot,” and appropriate the whole to himself and his successors.

Another source from which, at this period, the funds of the cathedral chapter were augmented, was the tolls of the annual fair held on the eve and festival of St. Philip and St. James and the following day; to which was added, in 1380, the right to hold a second, also for three days, viz. on the Feast of St. Dionysius and the day before and after; and a weekly market on Monday, with all the tolls, customs, etc., arising therefrom.<sup>3</sup> To complete the account we must also add the specific bequests by which they were occasionally supplemented. Thus Bishop Llewelyn ap Madoc, in his will, A.D. 1373, ordered his plate to be sold, and the proceeds applied to the fabric of the Cathedral, and also bequeathed “40s. vicariis de choro.”<sup>4</sup> Bishop Spridlington, A.D. 1381, bequeathed to the fabric 40s. sterling, and his book called *The Catholicon*; to the high altar of the same, a chalice of silver gilt; and 40s., to be equally divided among the perpetual vicars and other chaplains; and one marc, to be divided likewise between the “parvi vicarii, choristæ, et sacristæ.”<sup>5</sup> Bishop Child, A.D. 1389, left a hundred silver mercs for the purchase of vestments, besides a bequest of one vestment of red serge, and “unum Psalterium.”

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, ii, 88, App. xxxiv.

<sup>2</sup> P. 63, and Br. Willis, ii, 91, App. xxxvi.

<sup>3</sup> Br. Willis, App. xxx and xxxvii.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., ii, 89, App. xxxv.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., ii, 96, App. xl.



Such appear to have been the main features of the Cathedral history to the end of the fourteenth century, soon after which it was visited with the stern vengeance of Owen Glyndwr, who burnt it to the ground in A.D. 1402. On this occasion "the Chirch Cathedrall of Saint Asaph, with the steple, bells, quere, porch, and vestiary, with all other contentis, bokes, chaliz, vestiments, and other ornaments, as the bokes, stalles, deskes, altres, and all the aparail longying to the same chirch, was brent and utterly destroyed, and in likewys the byshop's palays and all his other three mannoirs no styk left."<sup>1</sup>

In this deplorable state of ruin the Cathedral continued for the long period of eighty years. Meanwhile, with a view to its restoration, and in consideration of the damage done to the see, the successive bishops were relieved from the payment of the annual rent of twenty merces due to the crown for certain lands which had been granted to them at Gronant-is-y-mor. For the like reason Bishop Lowe was allowed, in 1439, to retain Meifod with its chapelries of Welshpool and Guilsfield as appropriations;<sup>2</sup> and in 1442 there was added a special grant unto him by Henry VI, that "from henceforth he shall be quite and fully discharged against us and our heirs of all manour dismes and quinzimes and parcells of dismes and quinzimes that have been and shall be granted unto us or our heirs by the clergie of this our Royaume, and of paying unto us or our said heires the saide dismes or quinzimes, or parcells of dismes and quinzimes, of the which the saide Johan hath, be or shall be, grauntez, with other prelates of this our Royaume."<sup>3</sup> It was not, however, till 1482 that the restoration was carried out by Bishop Redman, who, having found "only the walls standing, set about repairing them, and having carried them up to the present height, and placed thereon a new roof, and made the east window stalls in the choir, as may be seen to this day" (writes Browne Willis in 1720) "by his arms being fixed in divers parts of the church and on the episcopal throne before it was new made, since 1660." These oaken stalls, with their excellent canopy-work, which have been assigned by tradition to the skilful handicraft of an idiot, after

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, ii, 116, App. LI, from the Sebright Collection.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., ii, 115, App. L.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., ii, 117.



having been overlaid for many years with thick coatings of paint, have, in the late renovation, been once more restored to their original beauty. The old Perpendicular east window, of Redman's time, was supplanted, in the alterations of 1780, by a pretended imitation of the east window of Tintern Abbey. Bishop David ab Owen, in 1512, bequeathed to the Cathedral a silver gilt chalice, some altar-linen, a vestment for the celebration of Mass, and twenty pounds of wax for lights for the high altar; and Bishop Standish, in 1535, added £40 for paving the choir. This last bequest, however, is said to have been expended in the purchase of an organ, and to have involved the executors in a law suit, because they had not performed the letter of his will.<sup>1</sup>

Little more, save what has been already said about the Declaration of the dean and chapter on abjuring the supremacy of the Pope,<sup>2</sup> is related of the Cathedral till we come to the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of Henry VIII. The episcopal palace, after having lain in ruins for a hundred years,<sup>3</sup> was at length rebuilt by Bishop David ab Owen, whose name was to be seen over a door leading to the garden, before the present garden front was rebuilt by Bishop Bagot in 1795. The canons' houses were never rebuilt, unless the present canonry, built in 1857, under somewhat different circumstances, may be said to replace them.

The *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of Henry VIII, A.D. 1535, is full of valuable information as to the sources and value of the incomes of the bishop and the different members of the Cathedral chapter, and from it we derive the following particulars:

*The Bishop.—Temporalities.*

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Manor of Llandegla, let to John Gruffydd	-	v	0	0		
„ St. Martin's	-	i	0	0		
„ Meliden, let to Peter Mutton	-	ix	0	0		
Bishop's land at St. Asaph, let to Fulk Salesbury, Clk.	-	ii	0	0		
„ called Uchby and Estervyns, to Roger Salesbury	-	viii	0	0		
Lepers' land at Wrexham, let to John ap Robert		x	0			
					25	10 0

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, i, 93.

<sup>2</sup> P. 73.

<sup>3</sup> During this interval Bishops Lancaster and David ap Iorwerth, and probably David ap Owen also, lived at Valle Crucis Abbey.

*Spiritualities.*

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Rectory of Mold, annual portion - -	v	0	0			
„ Llanassaph, let to Ric. ap Hoell -	xvi	0	0			
„ Blodwell, let to Ievan ..... -	ii	0	0			
Lactuals - - - -	lxvi	viii	viii			
Annual procurations - - - -	liii	xiii	viii			
Sixths from Henllan, Ruthlande, R. & V., Llan-						
selyn, Meliden, Llanyvith, S. Assaph,						
Llangurnyo, Dymgh'an and Mivod -	xx	xv	i			
Triennial procurations, giving annual average	xi	xix	ix½			
Proving of wills - - - -	i	iii	iiii			
				177	1	6
Deduct fees of steward, receiver, and auditor -	-	-	15	0	0	
Net income per ann. - - - -	-	-	187	11	6	
Tenth thereof granted by the clergy to the king, by Act of the						
last Parliament - - - -	-	-	18	15	1½	

*Dean.*

Henllan tithes and offerings - -	xxxiii	0	0			
Two portions of Meriadog & Wekewere, & house						
& glebe - - - -	xii	xiii	viii			
Two portions of Kyllowen et Bodeigan -	ii	0	0			
Prebend's portion from Rhuddlan, Llansellyn,						
& glebe - - - -	ii	vi	viii			
				50	1	4
Deduct sexta from Henllan to the Bishop -	-	-	5	0	0	
Net annual income - - - -	-	-	45	1	4	
Tenth to the king - - - -	-	-	4	10	1½	

*Archdeacon.*

Abergele, tithes and offerings - -	xxxv	xvii	ix			
Llangusteny, ditto - - - -	vi	xiii	iv			
Bettus - - - -	v	0	0			
Annual portions from other churches <sup>1</sup> in the						
lordship - - - -	iv	ii	iii			
Disserth, tithes and offerings - -	xvi	xiii	iv			
Relfnoid (Newmarket) - - - -	ix	0	0			
Prebend's portion - - - -	ii	vi	viii			
				79	13	4
Deduct lactuals and procurations, annual and triennial			-	4	17	9½
Net income - - - -	-	-	-	74	15	7
Tenth - - - -	-	-	-	7	9	6½

*Prebendary of Vaenol.*

Porcion' de Vaynell, Kynmell et Dynorben, tithes	xx	vi	viii			
Capella de Dym'ghion (Tremeirchion) -	iv	iii	iv			
Capella de Llangernew - - - -	xiii	iii	iv			
Prebend's portion - - - -	ii	vi	viii			
				40	0	0
Tenth - - - -	-	-	-	4	0	0

<sup>1</sup> E. g., Llanrwst, viiis. iiid.; Llansannan, vs.; Llanverthayarn, vis. iiii.; Llandulas, viis. viiid.; Llansanfraid, xvs.; Eglwischach, xs.; Llanhellian, xxxs.

*Prebendary of Llannefydd.*

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Llanufith', tithes and oblations - -	xx	0	0			
Porciones in Kylowen, Blodican et Kerynan -	vi	xiii	iv			
Porcion' de Llanvfith Ughmyneth - -	x	0	0			
Prebend's portion - - - -	ii	vi	viii			
				39	0	0
Deduct sexta to the Bishop - - - -	-	-	-	1	6	8
Net - - - - -	-	-	-	37	13	4
Tenth - - - - -	-	-	-	3	15	4

*The two Comportioners of Llanfair.*

Llanvaire-dal-Hairne, tithes, offerings, & glebe	xx	0	0			
Prebend's portion - - - -	ii	vi	viii	22	6	8
Deduct lactuals and procurations, ann. and trien.	-	-	-	3	16	0
Net - - - - -	-	-	-	18	10	8
Equal shares - - - - -	-	-	-	9	5	4
Tenth - - - - -	-	-	-	1	17	0 $\frac{3}{4}$

*Prebendary of Meliden.*

Meliden, tithes, etc. - - - -	xviii	0	0			
Prebend's portion - - - -	ii	vi	viii	20	6	8
Deduct sexta from Meliden to the Bishop -	-	-	-	2	0	0
Net - - - - -	-	-	-	18	6	8
Tenth - - - - -	-	-	-	1	16	8

*Canons.*

							Tenth.
Ric'us Harrison, prebendal portion - -	ii	vi	viii	0	4	8	
Arthurus Bulkeley - - - -	ii	vi	viii	0	4	8	
Adam Bekensall - - - -	ii	vi	viii	0	4	8	
Galfridus Ruthyn - - - -	ii	vi	viii	0	4	8	
Rad'us Brikeved - - - -	ii	vi	viii	0	4	8	
Joh'es Gruffith - - - -	ii	vi	viii	0	4	8	
David Owen, prebendal portion & "porcio de Myfod" - - - -	iii	x	0				
Inde sexta et proc. trienn. - - - -		iii	v				
Nett - - - - -	iii	vi	vii	0	6	8	
David ap Hoell, preb. por. and glebe -	ii	x	viii	0	5	0 $\frac{3}{4}$	

*The four Vicars Choral.*

St. Asaph, tithes and offerings - - -	xi	xviii	0			
Nanclyn - - - - -	ii	0	0			
Gothelwerne - - - - -	xv	iv	v	29	2	5
Deduct sexta, lactuals, and procurations -	-	-	-	2	4	5
Nett - - - - -	-	-	-	26	18	0
Equal shares, each - - - -	-	-	-	6	14	6
„ tenth - - - - -	-	-	-	2	13	9 $\frac{1}{2}$

These canons, it may here be noted, gave their names to their

respective stalls, which were known thenceforward as “Canonia 1ma, David ap Howell”; “canonia 2da, Arturii Bulkely”, and so on. The archdeaconry, which was taken *in commendam* by Bishop Hughes, in 1573, continued so until the office was restored by an Order in Council in 1844, and subdivided into those of St. Asaph and Montgomery.

In a chapter holden on the 25th of May, 1558, under the presidency of Bishop Goldwell, some old ordinances relating to the members of the Cathedral and their duties (evidently those of Bishop Llewelyn ap Ynyr, A.D. 1296), to the following tenor, were unanimously confirmed: “Statuimus et ordinamus ut sint perpetuo in Ecclesia Cathedrali Assaphensi, unus decanus, xiv canonici (quorum unus sit archidiaconus, unus vice-decanus, unus precentor, unus thesaurarius), iv canonici minores sive vicarii chorales; tres capellani sive vicarii deservituri curis decani, prebendarii de Vaynol et prebendarii de Llanufydd, et etiam ad interessendum singulis diebus tempore celebrationis divinorum; unus organista, iv choristæ, unus subsacrista sive aquæ bajulus; qui quidem in eadem ecclesia, numero subscripto, unusquisque in suo ordine juxta obligationem suam sedulo inserviat.”<sup>1</sup>

In a subsequent chapter, held on the 8th of March, 1601, under the presidency of Bishop Morgan, “pro concionibus habendis in Ecclesia Cathedrali Assaphensi,”<sup>2</sup> the following scheme was agreed upon as to the number of sermons to be preached annually in the Cathedral by the respective members of the chapter: the dean, six; the archdeacon (*i.e.*, the bishop), six; the prebendary of Vaenol, five; of Llannefydd, five; of Meliden, five; the comportioners of Llanfair, eight; prebendary of Meifod, three; each of the canons, two; and the lord bishop on Ascension Day, All Souls’ (17th of November), Christmas Day, and Good Friday. To this order for the Cathedral, Bishop John Owen, in A.D. 1630, added the following series of Welsh sermons, to be preached in the parish church, on the first Sunday in each month, by such members of the chapter as derived a portion of their income from the tithes of the parish: the bishop in November; the dean in December, May, and August; the prebendary of Vaenol in Janu-

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, ii, 134, App. LVIII.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., 149, App. LXI.



ary, June, and September; the prebendary of Llannefydd in February and July; the prebendary of Meifod in March; the first vicar-choral in April, the second in October, the third on Easter Day, at matins; and the fourth, at vespers, on Whitsunday.<sup>1</sup> The following extract from the *Diary of Piers Roberts*,<sup>2</sup> who lived at this period at Bronwylfa, supplies an interesting illustration of the above arrangement:

"6 Mar. 1630. A christening before Morning Prayers or High Service; upon which day Mr. Vicar Jones, Vicar Choral, made the first sermon in Welsh in the then p'ishe Church of St. Asaph al's Llanelwy, by my Lord Bishop's orders and decree; and my Lord Bishop preached in his Cathedral Church that day."

From the same source we gather the following further details:

"Mem. That upon and in the week before Xmas, the four-footed waynscotte pulpitt was made and placed in y<sup>e</sup> chauncell or queere of y<sup>e</sup> Cathedral: and in Ffebruarie 1631 the bishops seate in y<sup>e</sup> southe syde, togethyr with seates or fformes, placed and sett for schollars and others, comers thither to heare divyne service and sermons there, were sett up by the Rev. ffather John Owen, L'd Bishop of Llanelwy.

"1635. Organ, St. Asaph. Mem.—That in y<sup>e</sup> beginninge of Octr. y<sup>e</sup> greate and newe organ in y<sup>e</sup> Cathedral Church was sett up, and plaied upon y<sup>e</sup> same, beinge ffirst brought and carried thither from London upon Saturdaie the vth of Septr., the Rev. ffather L. John Owen being bishop. 'Magna silet campana sonant tamen organa Sancti Asaphei: Honor, gloria, laus Deo.' John Wilson y<sup>e</sup> organ player.

"1638. Pewes placed in the Cathedral, in the Southe Chapel al's Cappel Vair.

"1638. Greate timber trees carried out of Jannian Wood in Beraigne...for and towards the making of a newe steeple lofft or bellfrye...which intended work pray God to prosper.

"That in ye moneths of Oct'r and Nov'r ye steeple and bellfrye of y<sup>e</sup> cathedral church and y<sup>e</sup> lofft there were repaired and boorded, and fframes of the 3 belles reedyfied bye Ffoulke Llwyd the carpenter."

Two more entries in the same diary introduce us at once to the troubles of the civil war, and the misfortunes of the Church from that period to the end of the Commonwealth:

(1645.) "Upon Sondaie after Easter, Evan Evans, Clerk, being admitted Parson of Llanllwchaiarn...read the Articles of Religion agreed upon in 1562, for that he could not quietly yet repaire to Llan-

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, ii, 150, App. LXI.

<sup>2</sup> Ty-yn-y-Rhyl MSS. and Bodryddan MSS. in *Arch. Camb.*

llwchaiarn to read them there without danger of lieff and for feare of the enemies.

"1645. St. Asaph Rebellyon : 'Libera nos, D'ne, a malo. Amen.' Mem. The 24, 25 and 26 daies of Aprill y<sup>e</sup> rebels, *i. e.*, S'r Wm. Brereton and Sir Thos. Middleton, Knyghtes, with their armies have plyndered St. Asaph and parishe, excepte Wiewer, and made greate spoyles," etc.

The *Diary of Richard Symonds*, written about this time, and published by the Camden Society in 1859, gives the following description of the Cathedral : .

"The quire is pretty handsome, but poore in respect of others. Upon the flore, near the north wall, at the east end of the quire, lyes the statue of a bishop cut in stone ; an arch over his head, a foot above the ground, with mitre and crozier. The body of the Cathedral is rude and slovenly. Clay flore. Only a scurvy stone wall in the middle. No other monuments in the Church."

The happily brief interval of the Puritan rule was an evil period for the Cathedral and its members. The chapter was abolished, its property confiscated, and the members deprived of their preferments. The bishop, too, besides being impeached and imprisoned, was fined £500 ; the episcopal property sold, and the palace turned into a posting house or inn ; the master of which, moreover, desecrated the Cathedral by using it as a stable for his horses and oxen. After the Restoration Bishop Griffith set to work to repair the damage done, and built a new throne in lieu of that which had been used for feeding the innkeeper's calves in. He also renewed, in 1662, the scheme of sermons drawn up by Bishop Morgan for the Cathedral in 1601 ; only substituting for the 17th of November the 29th of May, which had been just appointed to be kept as a day of public thanksgiving to Almighty God for having put an end to the Great Rebellion ; and adding the 30th of January, which had also been set apart as a day of public fasting, in memory of the martyrdom of the late king, and "to implore the mercy of God that neither the guilt of that sacred blood, nor those other sins by which God was provoked to deliver up both us and our king into the hands of cruel and unreasonable men, may at any time hereafter be visited upon us or our posterity."<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> These two services were discontinued by royal warrant dated January the 18th, 1859.

Bishop Barrow, in 1678, procured an Act of Parliament for the appropriation of the rectory of Llanrhaidr-yn-Mochnant to the repairs of the Cathedral and the better maintenance of the choir. From which it appears evident that the former appropriation made by Bishop Spridlington in 1380, for a similar purpose, had never taken effect; owing, no doubt, to the destruction of the Cathedral so soon after by Owen Glyndwr. The Act,<sup>1</sup> after reciting in the preamble that

“The Cathedral Church of St. Asaph, by reason of the high and bleak situation thereof, near the sea, is much exposed to storms, and requireth great and frequent repairs, for defraying the charge whereof there is not at present any competent maintenance, and that the income and allowance of the choir within the said church is likewise very small and inconsiderable,” enjoins “that the advowson, patronage, and right of presentation of and to the rectory of Llanrhayadr in Mochnant, in the counties of Denbigh and Montgomery, shall be and is hereby vested in the said dean and chapter of St. Asaph and their successors; and that from and after the next avoidance thereof, the said rectory of Llanrhayader and all the gleab, tythes, issues, and profits thereof, shall be, and the same are hereby, vested in the said dean and chapter of St. Asaph and their successors for ever; and they shall be and remain perpetual parsons and incumbents thereof, without any presentation, nomination, admission, induction of any other incumbents thereunto for the future; and they shall hold the same as appropriated to this only intent and purpose, that the rents, issues, and profits of the same shall be by them from thenceforth, from time to time, for ever bestowed and employed to and for the satisfying and defraying the charge of the repairs of the said Cathedral Church of St. Asaph in the first place, and the residue of the said profits for the augmentation of the revenue of the choir thereof. And that until such vacancy of the rectory of Llanrhayader shall happen (but no longer), the rents, issues, and profits of the rectory of Skeiviog, in the county of Flint, with the appurtenances thereof, being now holden by the bishop *in commendam*, shall be appropriated and applied to and for the repairs of the said Cathedral Church, and for the augmentation of the said revenue of the said choir.”

Besides making this provision for the fabric, Bishop Barrow “repaired several parts of the Cathedral, especially the north and south isles, which he new covered with lead; and caused the east parts of the choir to be wainscoted; and laid out a considerable sum of money in building and repairs of the Palace and the mill belonging to it.”<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, ii, 151, App. LXII.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., i, 120. See also p. 113 *supra*, for many other munificent acts of his.



From "The Presentment of the Members of the Chapter in Answer to the Articles of Visitation exhibited by the Right Reverend Father in God, Edward (Jones) Lord Bishop of St. Asaph, at his Primary Visitation in the Chapter House on the 14th day of September, 1694," we gather that

"The constitution of the Cathedral was such that it consisted of one dean, one archdeacon, six prebendaries, seven canons, four petty canons, or otherwise called vicar-chorals, one organist, four singing men, four singing boys, one verger or subsacrista, and one organ-blower ; that they had no body of statutes then extant, but were governed by acts of chapter and the laudable customs of the Church ; that the prayers of the Church were duly celebrated, and the Holy Communion at least monthly administered ; that the Cathedral Church and all thereunto belonging was in good order and sufficient reparaire ; and that perfect terriers had been delivered to his lordship's predecessor of all lands, houses, etc., belonging to the chapter or the members thereof."

The "good order" and "sufficient reparaire", however, were probably not of a very high standard, otherwise Bishop Fleetwood (1708-1715) needed hardly so soon have "paved and flagged a great part" of it, as he did at his own expense,<sup>1</sup> with "broad stone" from the Talacre quarries,<sup>2</sup> besides laying out above £100 in adorning and painting the choir.

Not long after this, on the 2nd of February, 1714-15,—

"A violent storm or hurricane blew down the battlements and sheets of lead of the tower upon the roof of the quire, broke throw the same, beat down the tabernacle-work, and shattered the stalls and organ, to the damage of three or four hundred pounds ; which, however, was soon repaired by the generosity and vigilance of the bishop (Wynn) and other dignitaries, who not only contributed largely themselves, but procured subscriptions from the neighbouring gentry and clergy ; insomuch that the breach was made up to better advantage, and the church rather benefited than damaged thereby, as it is daily improving through the liberality of the present sett of members, who, being all natives except one, seem disposed to spare no zeal or cost to adorn their church, and render it 'the beauty of holiness.'"<sup>3</sup>

The same historian, Browne Willis, to whom we owe so much, has, in his minute description and measurements of the Cathe-

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, i, 140.

<sup>2</sup> "The stone and the carriage were the gift of Sir Pierce Mostyn, of Talacre, Bart." (B. W., MS. I, p. 55.)

<sup>3</sup> Br. Willis, i, 143.



dral about the year 1720, supplied us with the details of many interesting features, some of which have since been removed by alterations and restorations.<sup>1</sup> Thus he writes of the choir as

“Extending beyond the tower eastward, and having no side-isles or vestry appendant, *except the Chapter House*, which opens into it through the seats on the north side, about the middle, and has a room over it which is not used.... The roof of the choir is ceiled with boards nayled to the joyses under the couples, painted white, without any framing; and (that of) the body of the Church is of compass work. The upper part, over the arches of the great isle or nave, is of a newer work than the lower, and not of the same piece with the arches; and the east window of the choir is of a different architecture from the windows of the Chapter House.<sup>2</sup> From the two western pillars (that support the steeple) to the steps that lead to the choir, is eight yards and two feet. From the steps to the folding doors that open into the choir is five feet three inches; on each side of which steps are two vestries, within the area of the steeple: that on the north side is in length three yards, from east to west; and the opposite one, on the south side, two yards. Both rooms are on a square, and reach to the east end of the two great eastern pillasters, which support the steeple, where the screen of the choir begins. From the entrance of the choir to the west door that leads to the stalls is five feet. The length of the choir from the entrance to the steps that lead to the altar is forty feet nine inches. From beyond the stalls up to the altar, and also round the altar, the wall is covered with wainscot well finished with Belection work, which is painted, as are also the stalls. Over the door that leads into the choir is the organ (set up in 1714), within the arch, which is closed up with wainscot towards the nave.’ The dimensions of the window also bespeak lancets in the nave-aisles as well as in the choir. The tower, ninety-three feet high, had frames for eight bells, but contained only two, inscribed respectively ‘Thomas Roberts fecit ex Decreto et impensis Capituli Asaphensis, 1681,’ and ‘Hæ duæ Campanæ e tribus conflatae sunt.’ The three earlier ones were said to have been brought from Wrexham in exchange for a very large bell, which bore the inscription, ‘Dicas Bodlewiddan,’ probably in commemoration of the donor and his residence.”<sup>3</sup>

In 1780, during Bishop Shipley’s time, considerable alterations

<sup>1</sup> MS. Book I in Bishop’s Library, pp. 56, 57.

<sup>2</sup> An unpublished view of the Cathedral from the north east, taken by Moses Griffith before the alterations made in the year 1780, and now in the Downing Library, has the east window of the Cathedral a Perpendicular, and the north window of the Chapter House an early pointed triplet, similar to those which Mr. G. G. Scott has reproduced (1869) on the north and south sides of the chancel in his recent restoration.

<sup>3</sup> Pr. Willis, i, 14 seq.

were made both externally and internally. The old Chapter House was taken down, and the south wall of the choir rebuilt; the choir itself was renovated, and a new throne and pulpit erected. During the alterations the figure of a bishop, in his episcopal vestments, was "re-discovered, and removed from the south side of the high altar to one of the pillars in the broad aisle."<sup>1</sup>

Fresh works were continually carried out by way of renovation and repair during the first quarter of this century. A reredos of wood was set up about the year 1810, and other alterations made, under the direction of Mr. Turner, architect. In 1815 a special Act of Parliament was procured to enable the dean and chapter to borrow money to pay off encumbrances incurred on account of past, and to meet the expenses of further improvements. About the year 1822 the open roof of the nave and aisles was ceiled over with stucco, after the plans of Mr. Lewis Wyatt of London; and about the year 1830 the choir was extended so as to take in the portion under the tower; the old wooden screen taken down, and a new one, of stone, erected at the intersection of the tower and nave; and on it a new organ set up in lieu of the old one, which was presented by the dean and chapter to the parish church, and now occupies the north gallery therein.

In 1832 (2 William IV) a commission was appointed to inquire into the ecclesiastical revenues of England and Wales. From their Report, made in 1835, and calculated "on an average of three years ending on the 31st Dec. 1831," we learn from

Table I, that the average gross yearly income of the see and of the ecclesiastical preferments annexed thereto <sup>2</sup> was				
-	-	-	7408	0 0
Permanent yearly payments thereout				
-	-	-	1107	0 0
Net yearly income				
-	-	-	6301	0 0

<sup>1</sup> Br. Willis, i, 16, 22. This effigy, previously described, from *Symonds' Diary* (p. 203 *suprà*), and generally supposed to be that of Bishop David ap Owen, is most likely, to judge from its character, either that of Anian II, the re-builder of the Cathedral, or that of Llywelyn ap Ynyr (de Bromfield), who rearranged its services.

<sup>2</sup> The rectorial tithes of Abergele, Bettws, Llangwstenin, Disserth, and Newmarket, attached to the archdeaconry; and the rectories of Llandrinio and Pennant accustomedly held *in commendam*.

the greater part of which (£5,974) arose from tithes, which, however, had gradually declined since the year 1827, when they amounted to £6,636 : 0 : 0. By a supplemental statement it further appeared that "the income of the see was lower in 1834 by £1,022 : 0 : 0 than in 1831, and there seemed no prospect of improvement."

Table II, containing the corporate incomes of deans and chapters, that the average gross yearly income of the dean and chapter -	-	-	1462	0	0 <sup>1</sup>
Average yearly payments charged thereupon	-	-	823	0	0
Reserved yearly for repairs, etc., and not divided	-	-	257	0	0
Average net yearly income, subject to temporary charges <sup>2</sup>	-	-	382	0	0

The corporation consisted of the dean and thirteen prebendaries, who divided the net income equally.

Table III, giving the separate revenues not contained in Table II, that

			Aver. gross yearly Income, exclusive of Shares in II.				Aver. Net.				Fines on Renewal of Leases during the 3 Years, in ad- dition to Av. Net.			
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			
Deanery	-	-	-	1539	0	0	...	1185	0	0	...			
	<i>Prebends.</i>													
Vaenol	-	-	-	51	0	0	...	51	0	0	...	369	0	0
Llanefydd	-	-	-	74	0	0	...	65	0	0	...	41	0	0
Meliden	-	-	-	46	0	0	...	16	0	0	...	170	0	0
Llanfair-tal-haiarn, 1st comportion				79	0	0	...	79	0	0	...	97	0	0
„ „ 2nd comportion				31	0	0	...	31	0	0	...	41	0	0
Meifod	-	-	-	7	0	0	...	7	0	0				
	<i>Cursal Canonries.</i>													
Adam Bekensall	-	-	-	8	0	0	...	7	0	0	...	54	0	0
Arthur Bulkeley	-	-	-	6	0	0	...	5	0	0	...	34	0	0
David ap Howell	-	-	-	6	0	0	...	6	0	0	...	27	0	0
Galfridus Ruthin	-	-	-	7	0	0	...	6	0	0	...	84	0	0
John Griffith	-	-	-	6	0	0	...	5	0	0	...			
Rad. Birkenhead	-	-	-	6	0	0	...	6	0	0	...	39	0	0
Richard Harrison	-	-	-	6	0	0	...	6	0	0	...	17	0	0

There were no residences attached, except in the case of the deanery, and the duties were limited to an occasional turn in preaching, either in person or by deputy.

In close connexion with this inquiry, two other Commissions were issued in 1835,—1, "to consider the state of the several dioceses in England and Wales, with reference to the amount of

<sup>1</sup> Including the appropriation of Llanrhaidr, £1,080.

<sup>2</sup> Such were interest and annuities, amounting together to £179 : 18 : 10 p. a. on the sum borrowed under 54 G. III for repairing Cathedral.

their revenues and the more equal distribution of episcopal duties ; and the prevention of the necessity of attaching, by *commendam*, to bishoprics benefices with cure of souls ; and 2, to consider also the state of the several cathedral and collegiate churches, with a view to the suggestion of such measures as might render them more conducive to the efficiency of the Established Church ; and to devise the best mode of providing for the cure of souls, with special reference to the residence of the clergy on their respective benefices." Some of the fruits of their recommendations have been already noticed,<sup>1</sup> but that which concerns us most closely here is "An Act for regulating the Cathedral Churches in Wales," passed 22nd Aug. 1843 (6th and 7th Vict., cap. 77). By this Act certain provisions of two earlier ones (3rd and 4th Vict., c. 113, and 4th and 5th Vict., c. 39) were modified, explained, and supplemented to the effect,

1. "That in each of the chapters of the cathedral churches of St. Asaph, Bangor, St. David's, and Llandaff, there shall be four canonries residentiary, and no more ; and such canonries residentiary shall be in the direct patronage of the respective bishops.

2. "That so soon as conveniently might be after the passing of the Act, arrangements should be made for permanently annexing two of such four canonries residentiary, in such cathedral churches respectively, to two archdeaconries in the respective dioceses in which such churches are situate.

3. "That the dean of each of the said four cathedral churches shall be the head of the chapter thereof, and shall have precedence over all other members of the chapter ; and that such dean and the canons residentiary respectively of each such church shall possess and may exercise all the like rights, power, and authority, as are and may be possessed and exercised by the dean and canons respectively of any cathedral church in England founded by King Henry VIII.

4. "That the average annual incomes of the said deans and canons residentiary shall be of the same amounts respectively as are fixed as the average annual incomes of the deans and canons respectively of the cathedral churches of St. David's and Llandaff ;<sup>2</sup> and that the provisions of the said recited Acts respecting the augmentation of the incomes of deans and canons shall be construed to authorise the augmentation of the incomes of the respective deans and canons resi-

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<sup>1</sup> P. 153 seq.

<sup>2</sup> The Act 3 and 4 Vict., c. 113, fixed the average annual income of the deans of St. David's and Llandaff at £700, and that of the canons of the same cathedrals at £350 respectively.



dentiary aforesaid, out of the common fund in the said first recited Act mentioned.

5. "That it shall be lawful to provide out of the same fund one fit house at St. Asaph, Bangor, and Llandaff respectively, as a house of residence for the use of the canons residentiary, and also a fit house of residence for the dean of Llandaff.

6. "That from and after the passing of this Act the dignity and office of archdeacon of St. Asaph<sup>1</sup> shall no longer be holden by the bishop of St. Asaph ; that the dignities and offices of archdeacon of Bangor and archdeacon of Anglesea shall be dissevered from the bishopric of Bangor, and be no longer holden by the bishop, and the archdeaconry of Anglesea shall be incorporated with and form part of the archdeaconry of Bangor ; and that the dignity and office of archdeacon of Llandaff be separated from the deanery of Llandaff."

This scheme, whilst aiming at a restoration of the original principle of a resident council for the bishop, materially altered its character in the process. Instead of the old prebendal canons, who represented the members of the original *collegium*, and as deriving their *prebendæ* from the extensive districts once directly subject to it, were therefore, in theory at least, and probably in fact also, until the destruction of their houses, first by Edward's soldiers, and then by Glyndwr, intimately concerned in the welfare of the surrounding parishes, four residentiary canons were substituted, who should each be bound to a three months' residence, however large or important, or distantly situated, their own parishes might be ; two of whom, the archdeacons, had additional duties to discharge, and extra calls upon their time and services. The curial canons, that is, those with cure of souls ("cura salutis") elsewhere, representing as they did, in theory, the wider and more important *diocesan* element in the council, and deriving, as such, from the common fund a share sufficient to defray the expenses of their journeys to attend the chapter meetings at a time when the chapter was really the bishop's council and an influence in the Church, were relegated to the domain of honorary members, apparently without duties as well as without emolument. It may, however, be questioned whether the title "Honorary Canons", by which they have since been distinguished, though sufficiently indicative of their position, is a cor-

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<sup>1</sup> By virtue of a provision in 3 and 4 Vict., cap. 113, this was subdivided into those of St. Asaph and Montgomery.

rect application of the title in their case, seeing that the Act 3 and 4 Vict., which effected the change in the cathedral constitutions, founded Honorary Canonries only in those cathedrals "in which there were not already founded any non-residentiary prebends, dignities, or offices";<sup>1</sup> and where such did previously exist, it only abolished the emoluments, but did not suspend the offices themselves; so that the more correct title would seem, in this case, to be their old name of Canons Cursal.

This modification of the constitution of the chapter is appropriately followed by some account of the recent renovation of the fabric, carried out under the direction of Mr. Gilbert Scott, who has restored to the chancel and choir much of their original character. The main features of this restoration, which may be ascribed to the improved taste and feeling of the day rather than to any actual decay or deficiencies in the edifice itself, may be briefly described as, *externally*, new casing the walls, and substituting the characteristic lancets and cornice of the early English period of Edward the First's cathedral for the poor and ill proportioned windows and battlemented parapet introduced during the alterations in the earlier part of this century; and *internally*, as throwing open the Cathedral, so as to render it available for divine service throughout its entire length from east to west, by taking down the stone screen which separated the choir from the nave; removing the organ, which stood upon it, to the north transept; substituting open seats for the pews which had previously occupied the chancel, and seating the nave with chairs. The roof of the chancel has also been ceiled in paneled oak, to the cradled form of the old timber framing; and the portion under the tower vaulted in oak, in lieu of the previous stucco, and made to spring from carved corbels representing angels. The old oak stalls, with their fine tabernacle-work, have been cleaned from the paint which had so long encrusted them, and some new ones added. A new and well carved throne and pulpit, and a rich eagle-lectern of brass, have also been contributed; and there still remains a beautiful reredos in the artist's hands. The floor

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<sup>1</sup> These are specified in 4 and 5 Vict. as Canterbury, Bristol, Carlisle, Chester, Durham, Ely, Gloucester, Norwich, Oxford, Peterborough, Ripon, Rochester, Winchester, Worcester, and the new foundation of Manchester.

has been paved with rich encaustic tiles inlaid with bands of polished Anglesea marble; or, perhaps it should be said, repaved, as some of the tiles are exact reproductions of old ones found in the débris during the course of the work. The chancel is raised one step above the choir, and the sacrarium several steps above the chancel, each step being faced with one of the opening sentences of the "Te Deum," culminating in the glorious "Ter Sanctus." The sedilia have been restored from fragments discovered in the old work; and the same thing may be said of the two western windows of the chancel, into which the stonework of the originals, found in piercing the walls, has been worked up. This restoration, which has been carried out mainly through the exertions of the Dean, has been effected at an outlay of rather more than £6,000,<sup>1</sup> *inclusive* of £360 for the throne and pulpit; the former of which, as testified by a Latin inscription,<sup>2</sup> is a memorial to Bishop Beveridge (1704-1708); and the latter in honour of Bishop Short (1846-1870); £365 for the encaustic

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<sup>1</sup> A printed subscription list, issued by the Committee in 1868, gives the following contributions of £100 and upwards:

Dean and Chapter, from the Fabric Fund	-	-	-	£500
Bishop Short, two new windows, exclusive of the stained glass	-	200		
Dean Bonnor, £100 each to choir, nave, and Chapter House. Additional subscription, £40	-	-	-	340
R. J. Sisson, Esq., to General Fund, £100; windows, £112; peal of bells, £100	-	-	-	312
G. Willoughby Hemans, Esq., Gen. Fund, £160; window, £90	-	250		
Archdeacon Ffoulkes	-	-	-	250
Earl of Powis, conditionally on three more laymen contributing the same	-	-	-	250
Earl of Dudley, on the above condition	-	-	-	250
Sir Hugh Williams, oak roof of nave, £100; new Chapter House, £100	-	-	-	200
Lord Sudeley; Sir Stephen R. Glynne, Bart.; Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., M.P.; Mrs. Williams Wynn of Cefn; H. R. Hughes, Esq., Kinnel; Edmund Peel, Esq.; C. W. Wyatt, Esq., each give	100			
Baroness Windsor; Lady Willoughby de Broke; Miss Mesham; Mrs. Lloyd of Rhagget; Mrs. Nanney (+ £38); T. Mainwaring, M.P.; Jesus College, Oxford; Canon Morgan Davies; Hugh Jones, Esq.; Rev. W. C. E. Kynaston, each	-	-	-	50

<sup>2</sup> "Quod ejus pietatis, doctrinæ, modestiæ monumentum foret posteris hanc Sedem Pontificalem in memoriam viri vere apostolici, Gulielmi Beveridge, S. T. P., Episcopi Assav. ponendam curaverunt Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ alumni."



tiles, and £180 for improvements in the organ: but *exclusive* of such special gifts and offerings as the reredos, presented by Mr. Bamford-Hesketh; the lectern, by Miss Mesham; the Dean's stall, by the Messrs. Maurice; that of the Archdeacon, anonymously; two canons' stalls, by the Rev. Elis Price, in memory of ancestors who had once filled them; the altar-rails, by Mrs. Sturkey; the altar-cloth, by Mrs. H. P. Ffoulkes; and the two memorial windows given by Mr. R. J. Sisson and Mr. Willoughby Hemans.<sup>1</sup>

To this it only remains to add some further account of the Cathedral as it now is, A.D. 1870, in order to complete this portion of the work.

The ground-plan is that of a cross, and consists of chancel, nave with north and south aisles, north and south transepts, and central tower, under which is the choir; the dimensions of the several parts being:

		Length.		Breadth.		Height.
Chancel	-	61	...	34	...	40
Choir -	-	35	...	29	...	37
Nave and aisles	-	86	...	68	...	45
Transepts	-	108	...	33	...	40

Extreme length, 182 ft.; height of tower, 100 ft.; area, 11,600 ft.;  
cubic inches in the whole space, 324,976.

The external outline is simple; but from its commanding position and the massive character of the embattled tower, which forms a conspicuous landmark to all the surrounding country, it possesses a certain quiet dignity often wanting in larger and more attractive churches. The clerestory, which still remains on the south side, is formed of small squares filled with octofoiled tracery, that on the north having disappeared during the alterations of 1822. The tower, which has a small stair-turret on its north-east angle, and a Decorated window on each face, contains two bells only; but to atone for its deficiency in this respect, it commands a glorious view of the vale, the mountains, and the

<sup>1</sup> At the re-opening services on the 30th Sept. 1869, the English sermon was preached by the eloquent Bishop of Oxford (Wilberforce), and the Welsh one by the Bishop of Bangor (Campbell), when the thrilling effect of the grand "Old Hundredth" ("Yr Hên Ganfed") stirred in many hearts a longing for the day when Welsh services should be regularly held in the mother church of the Welsh diocese.



sea. The new windows of the chancel are Early Pointed in style, and consist of a triplet and two double lancets on each side. The great east and west windows are of the Decorated period, with flowing tracery; and the north and south windows of the transept are also Decorated, but with tracery of a geometrical character.

Internally, the want of height in the nave, produced by the modern stucco ceiling, which excludes the clerestory range, gives it a character of poverty and ill proportion; the more striking from the plainness of the arches, which rise in continuous mouldings, without pillars or capitals, from pediment to apex. This, however, it is proposed to remedy, as soon as funds are available, by restoring the nave to its original design, renewing the windows, and paneling the roof in oak so as to show the clerestory.<sup>1</sup> The north transept is used partly as an organ chamber, partly as a vestry for the members of the choir. The Organ, first erected by Hill of London in 1834, stood formerly upon the stone screen under the western arch of the tower. Considerable improvements were made in it both in 1846 and 1859; and on its recent removal to its present site, a further outlay<sup>2</sup> has tended to render it as rich in power as it was previously in quality of tone. The south transept (originally St. Mary's, or the Lady Chapel) is used as the Consistory Court; and also contains the Library, since its removal from the old Chapter House. The books number nearly seventeen hundred volumes, and consist chiefly of theological works of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries;<sup>3</sup> besides copies of rolls, records, acts of Parliament, and other public documents, printed by the Record and other commissions, it possesses also a copy of the "Sealed Book of Common Prayer," and a valuable series of Welsh editions of the Bible and Prayer Book;<sup>4</sup> but it is almost entirely wanting in modern standard works.

Of the memorials to the departed by which it is adorned, the

<sup>1</sup> It is also proposed to build a Chapter House, to be connected by a cloister with the south transept.

<sup>2</sup> £180 collected by Mr. Atkins, the organist.

<sup>3</sup> Bishop Fleetwood used to give the "Mortuaries", before their abolition in 1712, for the purchase of books, to which others have been added by Prebendaries Clopton and Bouchery and Bishop Short.

<sup>4</sup> Presented by the Rev. Dr. Briscoe, vicar of Whitford.

most striking as well as most appropriate are the painted windows. The beautiful east window, of seven lights, was erected to the memory of Bishop Carey by his sisters, Susanna Levett and Anna Sheepshanks, in 1864, and has, as its central subject, the Ascension of our Lord. This is surrounded by twelve incidents in His life and teaching. Medallions representing the seven works of mercy fill the tracery; and the whole is crowned by his exaltation on the throne of David. On the north side of the chancel, the most eastern window (of two lights) represents Martha and Mary (St. Luke x, 42), and was erected by Bishop Short to the memory of his wife, "Mary Short, who died Aug. 16, 1848," and lies buried near the western door; and corresponding to it, on the south side, is one representing "The Unbelief of St. Thomas" (St. John xx, 27), also erected by him at the same time. Next to this is represented, in two lights, "The Magdalen" (St. Matt. xiv, 8), and "Our Lord at the Grave of Lazarus" (St. John xi, 25), to the memory of Susan Maria Sisson, died 1865; and opposite to it, on the north side, "Felicia Hemans" is appropriately honoured, by the filial affection of her son, with vivid representations of the sacred songs of Moses and Miriam (Exod. xv, 2), and of Deborah and Barak (Judges v, 3). The west window of the nave has eight medallions illustrative of the life of our Lord, and was erected by subscription in honour of "Rowland Williams, M.A., canon of this Cathedral," 1856. That of the south aisle, representing "The Good Shepherd and Christ blessing little Children," is to the memory of Caroline Jane Bonner, 1865. In the south transept the principal window is filled with quarries, the tracery illustrating the Beatitudes; and is the gift of Messrs. Hughes & Ward, the artists who supplied all the painted glass in the Cathedral, except that of the west window, which is by Gibbs. The armorial bearings in the other windows were removed hither from the chancel, when the present beautiful memorial to Bishop Carey was substituted.

Among the monuments may be noticed the following. In the south transept, the episcopal effigy already mentioned as existing formerly in the chancel, and representing probably either Anian II or Llewelyn ap Ynyr; and a life-sized effigy of Dean Shipley, in a sitting posture, executed by Ternouth, and erected by public

subscription.<sup>1</sup> In the north transept, the Luxmoore monument, a high, canopied tomb, which cost £1,500, commemorates the bishop, dean, and canon of that family; tablets to members of the families of Lloyd of Pengwern and Berth Llwyd, 1763, 1795; Thelwall, 1775; and a slab to Leche of Carden.<sup>2</sup> In the nave, a floriated cross to the memory of Dean Clough, 1859; tablets to members of the families of Price of Vaenol and Rhiwlas, 1732; Browne of Bronwylfa,—among them General Sir Henry Browne, died 1855; and Felicia Hemans, the poetess, buried at St. Anne's, Dublin, but commemorated here both by a window and a tablet; "Sir John Williams, 1830, and Dame Margaret, his wife, 1835," by Westmacott; Captain Whiteman Thomas, 1867, "by his brother officers"; and others to Wyatt, Bythel, Blewer, Jones, Webster. In the Cemetery are the tombs of Bishops, Barrow near the west door, and Bagot and Carey in the south-east angle, between the chancel and transept.

Bishops Morgan, Parry, and Owen, have neither monument nor memorial to mark their last resting-place!

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<sup>1</sup> The cost was about £600.

<sup>2</sup> To this transept has been removed a massive sepulchral slab, found during the recent restoration beneath the floor of the choir. It bears a curious representation of a hare pursued by a hound; and on an armorial shield has a lion gardant, and four fleurs-de-lis; but no legend. Another slab, found at the same time, bearing a floriated cross, and underneath it a flat leaden circular box-cover or lid, with a hand, in benediction, rudely cut or scratched upon it. It probably marked the grave of Bishop Spridlington, who "died at his Palace at Galltmelyden, 9 April, 1381, and appointed his body to be interred in his cathedral church, under a flat stone in the choir, lying equal with the pavement."—B. Willis, i, 69.

THE BISHOPS,  
ARCHDEACONS, AND CHANCELLORS,  
OF THE DIOCESE,  
  
AND  
  
THE DEANS, PREBENDARIES, CANONS,  
  
AND  
  
VICARS-CHORAL,  
  
OF THE CATHEDRAL.





## THE BISHOPS.

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C. A.D. 560.—CYNDEYRN (KENTIGERNUS), a northern Briton, disciple of St. Serf, and founder of the see of Penrhyn Rhionydd (Glasgow). Being driven thence he became the founder of Llanelwy; but was soon recalled, and continued to preside over Glasgow till his death, A.D. 612. He is still commemorated there under the title of “St. Mungo” (Mwyngu) “the Amiable.”

*Life*.—1. A fragment by a monk unknown, between A.D. 1147-1164, in *Glasgow Cartulary*, vol. i, pp. 78-86. 2. By Joscelin of Furness, c. A.D. 1180, in Pinkerton's *Vitæ SS. Scot.*, pp. 195 seq. 3. Based upon Joscelin's in Capgrave, *N. L. A.*, 207; and *Act. SS.*, Jan. 13, i, 815; from *Councils*, i, 157.

C. A.D. 570.—ASAPH OR ASA, a disciple of Cyndeyrn, is said to have written the *Ordinances of his Church*, the *Life of St. Kentigern*, and some other works; and is memorable for the saying attributed to him, “Quicunque verbo Dei adversantur, salutis hominum invident.” The parish churches of Llanasa and Llanelwy are dedicated to him in connexion with St. Cyndeyrn.

*Life*.—In *Acta SS.*, Maii, tom. i, p. 82, Antv. 1860; and a fragment in *Llyfr Côch*.

C. A.D. 600.—TYSILIO, son of Brochwel Ysgythrog, Prince of Powys, is supposed to have succeeded Asaph. He founded a church at Meifod, near his father's castle of Mathraval, and organised the district of which it was the head. The daughter church of Llandysilio, and many others, record him as their founder and patron saint. To him has been assigned one of the ancient Welsh chronicles, which is printed in the *Myvyrian Archæology* under the name of “Brut Tysilio.” But it is difficult to ascertain his portion of the work, whether he was the original compiler of the chronicle which was afterwards edited by Walter de Mapes, and amplified by Geoffrey of Monmouth, or whether he wrote a continuation of the original work. The only remains of his poetry

consist of a dialogue between two monks, which is also printed in the *Myvyrian Archaiology*.

For *Life* and authorities, see Williams's *Eminent Welshmen*.

- C. A.D. 800.—“RENCHIDUS, mentioned without a see, but in conjunction with Elbod of Bangor by one MS. of Nennius, may have been Bishop of St. Asaph.”—*Councils*, i, 144.
- A.D. 928.—CEBUR, *Bishop of St. Asaph*, is mentioned in the preface to the *Laws of Hywel Dda* as accompanying that prince to Rome to see if those laws were consistent with the Law of God.
- C. A.D. 1070.—“MELANUS Llanelvensis, said by the chapter of St. David's to have been consecrated by ‘Bedwd’ (apparently Bleidud), Bishop of St. David's.”—*Councils*, i, 144.
- A.D. 1143.—GILBERT, consecrated at Lambeth by Theobald, Archbishop of Canterbury. The first bishop of this see to derive his orders from England.
- A.D. 1152.—GEOFFREY (*the well known Archdeacon*) OF MONMOUTH. Galefridus or Galffrai ab Arthur was family priest of William Earl of Gloucester, lord of Glamorgan, and consecrated by Archbishop Theobald at Lambeth, A.D. 1152, but died at Llandaff before taking possession of his see. *Brut y Tywysogion* records of him, in ann. 1152, that “he was a man whose like could not be found for learning and knowledge and all divine excellence.....on account of which an archdeaconry was conferred upon him in the church of Teilo at Llandaff, where he was the instructor of many scholars and chieftains.” He is famous for his version of the British Chronicle (*Brut Tysilio*), which he remodelled from another version by Walter Mapes, Archdeacon of Oxford; it is printed in the *Myvyrian Archaiology* as *Brut Gruffydd ab Arthur*.—*Councils*, i, 360, and *Eminent Welshmen*.
- A.D. 1154.—RICHARD, *a Friar*, but of what order is not known, was also consecrated by Archbishop Theobald.
- A.D. 1158.—GODFREY, *a nominee of Henry II.*—“Paupertate et infestatione Walensium compulsus,” he deserted his see, A.D. 1165, probably owing to the successes of Owen Gwynedd, and received from the king the abbey of Abingdon to hold *in commendam*. Continuing to exercise episcopal functions, he incurred thereby the odium of his brethren; and was suspended, A.D. 1170, by the Pope for joining in the coronation of Prince Henry “*contra jura Cantuariensia*.” He became obnoxious to Archbishop Becket for absolving certain persons whom he had excommunicated, and is described by Wharton as of ill repute everywhere. “*Mercenarius episcopus vulgo habitus; quique canones ecclesiasticos aut nesciret aut lucro oblato parum curaret.*” Finally, being complained of by his clergy for non-residence, and compelled to elect between the see and the abbey, he chose the latter, and was almost immediately afterwards deprived of that also.

- 1175.—ADAM, *a Canon of Paris*, where he had been a fellow student with Giraldus (Cambrensis). He was consecrated by Archbishop Richard, attended the Council at Westminster in 1177, and that at the Lateran in 1179. Died in 1181, and was buried at Osney.
- 1183.—JOHN I.
- 1186.—REYNER,<sup>1</sup> *a Benedictine monk*, consecrated by Archbishop Baldwin, whom he attended in his celebrated Visitation of the diocese, 1188.
- 1225.—ABRAHAM.
- 1235.—HUGH, consecrated in Reading Abbey on the same day with the famous Robert Grosseteste, or Greathead, Bishop of Lincoln.
- 1240.—HOWEL, son of Ednyfed, Lord of Abergele and Baron of Brynffanigl, was consecrated at Boxgrave Abbey. During his time Wales was conquered by Henry III, and the Welsh bishops and clergy, siding with their countrymen, had their bishoprics and churches so despoiled and destroyed, that they were forced to beg their bread, and live upon the alms of others. Howel died in 1247, at Oxford, and was buried, like his countryman Adam, at Osney Abbey.
- 1249.—ANIAN I, or EINION. The King (Henry III) began to assume the same prerogative in the election of the bishops, both here and at St. David's, as he had hitherto exercised in England; both issuing a license to the dean and chapter to elect, and requiring them also to seek his confirmation of the election.<sup>2</sup>
- 1267.—JOHN II (on the authority of Wharton, p. 323).
- 1268.—ANIAN II, "*de Schonau*," "*Y Brawd du o Nannau*," as he was more familiarly known, a Dominican friar, and confessor to Edward I in the Holy Land. "*Longe fortissimus privilegiorum Sedis sue vindex et assertor.*"—*Lib. Antiq.*, MS. de Hergest.
- 1293.—LLEWELYN AP YNYR (LEOLINUS DE BROMFIELD), *a Canon of St. Asaph*. Having been elected during a vacancy in the archiepiscopal see of Canterbury, he received the royal license for his confirmation by the Prior and Chapter on May 9th, and was consecrated there

<sup>1</sup> "It would appear from an Inspeximus Charter of Archbishop Peckham that there were two Reyners bishops of St. Asaph in succession. Mr. Hardy, in his edition of Le Neve's *Fasti* (i, 66), makes a remark which shews that he suspected something of the kind, on the ground that Bishop Reyner (if only one person) must have sat for the unusual term of thirty-eight years."—Eyton's *Shropshire*, x, 342. In the absence of more definite information, however, I abstain from adding the second name.

<sup>2</sup> On Anig's death, in 1266, the temporalities of the see were entrusted to one Meurig, whose agreement with the chapter relating thereto is given in *Councils*, i, 495. From Peniarth MS. of *Llyfr Cŉch*.



by the Bishop of London on Whit-Sunday. He bore an important part in the resettlement of the Church after the annexation, and "bequeathed much goods and ornaments to his church, canons, and chaplains."

1314.—DAFYDD AP BLEDDYN, *Canon of St. Asaph*.

1352.<sup>1</sup>—JOHN TREVOR I. Nominated by Pope Clement VI first to a canonry, and then to the bishopric.

1357.—LLEWELYN AP MADOC ab Elis, *Dean of St. Asaph*.

1376.—WILLIAM DE SPRIDLINGTON, *Dean of St. Asaph*, 1357. Previously rector of Spridlington in Lincolnshire, and of Weldon in Northamptonshire, and prebendary of Lincoln. Appointed to the bishopric by provision of Gregory XI, Feb. 4th, 1376; made profession of obedience at Lambeth, April 29th, and was consecrated May 25th. He died at his palace at Alltmeliden (Llys), April 9th, 1382, and was buried in the choir of the Cathedral.

1382.—LAWRENCE CHILD, LL.B., a *Benedictine monk of Battle Abbey*. *Congé d'élire* dated May 19; confirmation by Archbishop Courtney, June 18; received the spiritualities Oct. 2, and the temporalities Oct. 20, 1382.

1390.—ALEXANDER BACHE, S. T. P., of the *Order of Preaching Friars*, and confessor to Richard II. Designated by the King in a *congé d'élire*, dated Jan. 13, 1390, he demanded consecration from the Archbishop (Courtney); but was refused, and had to wait until he had received the papal confirmation of Boniface IX, after which he was consecrated at Westminster on May 8. He died in August, 1394, and was buried in the House of the Grey Friars at Hereford. His will is given in Browne Willis, App. XLIV.

1395.—JOHN TREVOR II received the temporalities July 6, and the spiritualities Oct. 15, 1395. For the important events of his episcopate, see p. 65 seq. He was buried in the chapel of the Infirmary of the Abbey of St. Victoire, Paris, with the following epitaph, "Hic jacet Reverendus in Christo, Pater, Johannes Episcopus *Herefordensis* in Wallia, qui obiit A.D. 1410 die Veneris x mensis Aprilis; cujus anima feliciter requiescat in pace. Amen."

1411.—ROBERT DE LANCASTER, *Abbot of Valle Crucis* (as appears from a contemporary Register in the Hengwrt MSS. 133); consecrated at Lincoln by Archbishop Arundel, June 28, 1411.

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<sup>1</sup> According to the Chronicle of Wales, one Ephraim was bishop of St. Asaph in 1332; and according to a record in the Tower (1 Richard III), one Henry in 1347. But these are both mistakes,—the former probably for Abraham (1232), and Henry Menevensis (St. David's); for in 1336 David is the bishop mentioned in Edward the Third's grant of land, and it was he who confirmed the appropriation of Nantglyn (p. 61).

1433.—JOHN LOWE, S. T. P., *Provincial of the Austin Friars*; born in Worcestershire, and educated at Droitwich (in a convent of that order) and Oxford. Nominated by papal provision, August 17, 1433; and consecrated, Nov. 1, by Archbishop Chicheley. Translated in 1443 (the first instance of translation from this see) to Rochester, where he died, and was buried in the Cathedral in 1467. Bishop Lowe was a learned man, and “wrote divers good works. He was also a careful searcher after good books, so that divers copies of some ancient fathers had utterly perished but for his diligence.”<sup>1</sup>

1444.—REGINALD PECOCK, S. T. P. Born at Laugharne in Carmarthenshire, he was educated at Oriel College, Oxford, of which he became a fellow; promoted to this see by papal provision, bull dated 22 April, 1444; received the temporalities June 8, and was consecrated at Croydon on the 14th; translated to Chichester in 1449, and deprived in 1457. (See p. 71 *supra*.)

*Life* by J. Lewis; see also Browne Willis, i, 80; *Lives of Archbishops of Canterbury*, vol. v; Milman's *Annals of St. Paul*.

1450.—THOMAS KNIGHT, *Prior of Daventry*, 1444; which office he was allowed to hold with his bishopric until 1460, when he was deprived of the former for non-residence, and of the latter for his politics.

1471.—RICHARD REDMAN, S. T. P., *Abbot of Shapp in Westmoreland*, and Visitor-General of the Premonstratensian Order. Born in Hertfordshire, he became chaplain to Bishop Gray of Ely, who promoted him, in 1455, to the rectory of Kershull, and in 1458 to that of Stretham in that diocese. He was consecrated to this see, Oct. 13, 1471, and being allowed to hold his abbacy *in commendam*, was the better able to carry out his great work of restoring the ruined Cathedral. Translated to Exeter in 1495, and thence to Ely in 1501.

1495.—MICHAEL DIACON, *Confessor to Henry VII*, consecrated 11 Jan. 1495, and buried in Westminster Abbey.

1500.—DAVYDD AB IORWERTH, *Abbot of Llanegwest, i. e., Valle Crucis*, consecrated April 26, 1500, died 1503. “While he presided over the abbey he was distinguished for his hospitality and patronage of the Welsh bards.” (See *Archæologia Cambrensis*, i, 26.)

1503.—DAVYDD AB OWEN, LL.D., *Abbot of Aberconway (or Maenan)*. He had been educated at Oxford, and became abbot, first, either of Ystrad Marchell, or its daughter house of Valle Crucis, and afterwards of Aberconway. Appointed to the bishopric by Pope Julian, Dec. 18, 1503, he rebuilt the palace, which had lain in ruins for a hundred years after its destruction by Glyndwr, and

<sup>1</sup> Browne Willis, i, 80.

built a timber bridge (reconstructed of stone in 1639) over the Clwyd, still known as "Pont Davydd Esgob." He died Feb. 12, 1512, and was buried in the Cathedral.

1513.—EDMUND BIRKHEAD, S. T. P. of Cambridge. He was instituted by papal provision of Leo X, April 15, 1513; consecrated, May 29, by Archbishop Warham; and, dying in 1518, is thought to have been buried in Wrexham Church, the rebuilding of which he is said to have greatly promoted.

1518.—HENRY STANDISH, S. T. P., *Provincial of the Order of Minorite or Grey Friars*. Of the family of Standish, of Standish in Lancashire, he had been educated partly at Oxford and partly at Cambridge; was appointed Warden or Provost of the Franciscan Convent in London; nominated to this see by papal provision of Leo X, in a Bull dated May 28, 1518; and consecrated, July 11, in the conventual church of the Franciscans at Oxford, by Archbishop Warham. In 1515, when Warden of the Minorites in London, he distinguished himself by taking the anti-clerical side in the controversy as to the exemption of the clergy from civil judges. In 1523 he was sent as ambassador into Denmark; in 1527 he was engaged with Cardinal Wolsey and others in the examination of Thomas Bilney, who was afterwards burnt;<sup>1</sup> and in 1530 he was one of the bishops who directed Queen Catherine in the memorable suit concerning her divorce. He died in London, July 9, 1534, and was buried in the Church of the Grey Friars. He was a learned man, and a most zealous assessor of the Catholic religion;<sup>2</sup> wrote several sermons, in which he inveighed especially against Dean Colet, and also a treatise against Erasmus's Translation of the New Testament.

1535.—WILLIAM BARLOW, S. T. P., *Prior of Bisham*. Descended of an old Welsh family, but born in England, he was educated at the Austin Priories of St. Osith, Essex, and Oxford. Being favourable to the Reformation, he travelled into Germany to be instructed by Luther and other teachers of the new learning. On his return he became successively canon of Blackmore, prior of Tiptree and Lees in his native county of Essex, rector of Great Cressingham, and prior of Bromhall, Norfolk, of Haverfordwest, and lastly of Bisham. By his readiness to resign his preferments on the dissolution of monasteries, he gained the favour of Henry VIII, and was promoted to this see; elected Jan. 16, 1535; received the temporalities Feb. 2, and was consecrated Feb. 22; but within a few months he was translated to St. David's, and thence again, in 1549, to Bath and Wells. On the accession of Queen Mary he was deprived, and imprisoned in the Fleet, but

<sup>1</sup> Wordsworth's *Ecclesiastical Biography*, *sub voce* "Bilney."

<sup>2</sup> Burnet's *History*, i, p. 13.



escaped thence into Germany. Returning after her death, he was made Bishop of Chichester by Elizabeth in Dec. 1559; and the following year first canon of St. Peter's, Westminster, on the new foundation. He died in 1567. His works, at one time for, at another against, the Reformation movement, are, like his life, an illustration of the transitional state of the religious opinion of the time.

- 1536.—ROBERT WARTON or WARBINGTON, called also PARFEW or PERFEW, S. T. P., *Abbot of St. Saviour's, Bermondsey*, which he continued to hold with his bishopric, to which he was elected June 18, 1536, and received consecration July 2. The abbey being very rich, he was able to live in great state; and on resigning it to Henry VIII, in 1539, received a pension of £333 : 6 : 8. He was translated, in 1554, to Hereford, where he died and was buried in 1558 or 1559.
- 1555.—THOMAS GOLDWELL, S. T. P., *All Souls College, Oxford*, received the temporalities May 12, 1555, and had restitution of them, Jan. 22, 1556. Queen Mary designated him for translation to Oxford, and the patent for restitution of the temporalities of that see was dated November 9, 1558; but before the translation was perfected, the Queen died, and Goldwell withdrew into exile. He sat at the Council of Trent in 1562, and afterwards going to Rome, he was appointed by the Pope (Pius IV) to baptize Jews, and ordain such Englishmen as fled thither for their religion. He was living at Rheims in 1580, and died the following year at Rome. His picture was to be seen, in Mr. Addison's time, in the Pope's gallery at Ravenna, with this inscription: "P. D. Thomas Goldwellus Episc. Asaph. Tridno Concilio contra Hæreticos, et in Anglia contra Elizabet, Fidei Confessor conspicuus."
- 1558.—THOMAS WOOD, S. T. B., *Chaplain to Queen Mary*, rector of High Ongar, Essex, and of Harlington, Middlesex, and prebendary of Canterbury, is said to have obtained a grant of the temporalities, November 5, 1558; but, owing to the Queen's death, to have missed the promotion, and also to have been deprived of his other preferments. In 1579, according to Strype (*Hist. of the Reformation*, ii, 132), he was confined as a recusant in the Marshalsea, from which Fox professes to give an account of his escape.
- 1560.—RICHARD DAVIES, S. T. P., *One of the Translators of the "First Welsh Version of the New Testament," and of the English Version known as "Parker's" or "The Bishops' Bible."* He was the son of Davydd ap Gronw, curate of Gyffin, near Conway; born at Plas y Person in 1501, and educated at New Inn, Oxford; presented by Edward VI to the vicarage of Burnham, with which he also held the rectory of Maidsmorton, Bucks; deprived by Queen Mary, and went into exile at Geneva; restored by Elizabeth, and nominated to this see; elected by the chapter, December 4, 1559; confirmed January 18, and consecrated January 31, 1560; trans-



lated to St. David's, May 21, 1561; died November 7, 1581, and was buried at Abergwily. He is charged with having greatly impoverished the latter see; but it is not quite clear how much of the injury was due to him personally, and how much to the circumstances of the time and place. In his "*Rhagymadrodd*," or preface to the New Testament, being an epistle "to all the Welsh, especially those within his diocese, desiring a renewal of the ancient Catholic faith, by the light of the Gospel of Christ," he gives a brief historical review of the religious condition of Wales.

- 1561.—THOMAS DAVIES, S. T. P., *Archdeacon of St. Asaph*, son of Davydd ap Robert ap Llewelyn, of Caerhun, near Conway; born about A.D. 1515; educated at St. John's College, Cambridge; rector of Llanbedr-y-Cenin, and vicar of Caerhun; Chancellor of Bangor Cathedral, 1546; deprived by Mary, 1554; restored by Elizabeth, and promoted to be Archdeacon of St. Asaph, 1558; Bishop, 1561; confirmed May 21, and consecrated May 26; died in 1573. "He was distinguished for his piety and charity; founded a scholarship in Queen's College, Cambridge; and bequeathed also considerable sums of money for other pious uses."
- 1573.—WILLIAM HUGHES, S. T. P., son of Hugh ap Cynric of Cefn-y-Garllig in Carnarvonshire; educated first at Oxford, whence he removed to Christ's College, Cambridge; rector of Llysfaen, 1567; chaplain to the Duke of Norfolk; incorporated B.D. of Oxford, 1568; D.D., 1570; elected Bishop of St. Asaph, Nov. 28, 1573; confirmed Dec. 12, consecrated Dec. 30. See pp. 91, 92. He died in 1600, and was buried in the choir of the Cathedral.
- 1601.—WILLIAM MORGAN, S. T. P., *Translator of the Bible into Welsh*. He was born at Gwibernant, in the parish of Penmachno; educated at St. John's College, Cambridge; appointed vicar of Welshpool, 1575; vicar of Llanrhaiadr yn Mochnant, 1578 (where he translated the Old Testament); rector of Llanfyllin, and sinecure rector of Pennant Melangell, 1588; sinecure rector of Denbigh, 1594; Bishop of Llandaff, 1595; translated to St. Asaph, 1601; died Sept. 10, 1604, and buried in the choir of the Cathedral, without any inscription or monument. Pp. 88, 94.
- 1604.—RICHARD PARRY, S. T. P., *Author of the Revised Version of the Welsh Bible*. Born at Ruthin in 1560, he was educated at Westminster under Camden; and elected student of Christ Church, Oxford, 1579; became subsequently one of the Masters of Ruthin School; was made Chancellor of Bangor Cathedral, and vicar of Gresford, in 1592; and Dean of Bangor, 1599; elected to the see of St. Asaph, Oct. 19, 1604; confirmed Oct. 29, and consecrated Dec. 30th. He founded a pension of £6 per ann., at Jesus College, Oxford, for a poor scholar born in the town of Ruthin, or in this diocese. He died at Disserth, Sept. 26, 1623, and was buried in the Cathedral, without any monument. A

*Concio ad Clerum*, on Rev. iii, 4, was published in his name in 1628.

- 1624.—JOHN HANMER, S. T. P., *Prebendary of Worcester, and Chaplain to King James*. Of the family of the Hammers of Flintshire, he was born at Pentrepant, in Selattyn parish, in 1574. Educated at Oriel College, Oxford; fellow of All Souls, 1596; proctor for the University, 1605; rector of Bingham, prebendary of Worcester, and chaplain to the King, 1614; elected bishop of this see, Jan. 20; and consecrated Feb. 15, 1604. Died at Pentrepant, June 23, 1629; and was buried in the church of Selattyn, where a monument to his memory relates his benefaction to the poor of that parish.
- 1629.—JOHN OWEN, S. T. P., *Chaplain to King Charles I.* Of the family of Bodsilin, in the parish of Aber, he was born, in 1580, at Burton Latimers in Northamptonshire, of which his father, Archdeacon Owen (of Anglesea) was rector. Educated at Jesus College, Cambridge, of which he became a fellow; chaplain to King Charles I, and rector of Burton Latimers, 1618; promoted to this see in 1629, to which he was elected Aug. 11; confirmed Sept. 18, and consecrated Sept. 20. The troubles of his episcopate and his own misfortunes will be found at pp. 98 seq. He died at Aberkinsey, near Rhuddlan, Oct. 16, 1651, and was buried under the throne in the Cathedral.
- 1660.—GEORGE GRIFFITH, S. T. P., *Canon of St. Asaph*, born at Penrhyn, in Carnarvonshire, in 1601. Educated at Westminster; student and tutor of Christ Church, Oxford; chaplain to Bishop Owen, who made him a canon, and presented him to the rectory of Newtown, 1631; Llandrinio, 1632; Llanfechain, 1633, which he exchanged for Llanymynach. During the Rebellion he lost his preferments; but on the Restoration he was promoted to the bishopric, and consecrated Oct. 28, 1660, being allowed to hold *in commendam* his restored preferments. He died Nov. 28, 1666, and was buried in the choir of the Cathedral, with an inscription quaintly ending with “*Qui plura desiderat, facile investiget.*”
- 1667.—HENRY GLEMHAM, S. T. P., *Dean of Bristol*. He was born in Suffolk; educated at Trinity College, Oxford; and having been a great sufferer during the Rebellion, was on the Restoration made Dean of Bristol, 1660. Elected Bishop of St. Asaph, Feb. 7, 1667; confirmed Oct. 8, and consecrated Oct. 13. He died at Glemham Hall, Suffolk, Jan. 17, 1669, and was buried at Little Glemham.
- 1669.—ISAAC BARROW, S. T. P., *Bishop of the Isles and Governor of the Isle of Man*. Born at Wickham, in Cambridgeshire, he was educated at Peter House, Cambridge, of which he became a fellow, but was ejected during the Great Rebellion. Going to Oxford, then garrisoned for the King, he was appointed chaplain of New College, but on the surrender of the garrison was forced to

flee for safety. On the Restoration he recovered his fellowship, and was also made a fellow of Eton, and afterwards became rector of Downham. Being appointed by the Earl of Derby Bishop of the Isles (as the Bishop of Sodor and Man was then called), he was consecrated thereto July 5, 1663, and the following year made Governor of the Island. By the improvement of poor livings, the establishment of schools, and the foundation of scholarships at Trinity College, Dublin, he effected so much for the benefit of that diocese, that a historian<sup>1</sup> of the Island has written that "the bread the poor clergy eat is owing to him, as is all that little learning amongst the inhabitants." He was translated to St. Asaph, March 21, 1669; but retained till October, 1671, his former bishopric *in commendam*, as also the governorship of the island. The Act for the union of sinecure rectories to their vicarages, the repaired Cathedral and palace, the new almshouses which he built and endowed, and his bequest towards founding the grammar school at St. Asaph, all attest his care for the interests of this diocese. He died at Shrewsbury, June 24, 1680, and was buried near the west door of the Cathedral.

1680.—WILLIAM LLOYD, D.D., *One of the Seven Bishops*. Of the family of Henblas, in Anglesea, he was born at Tilehurst Rectory, Berks, Aug. 18, 1627; entered at Oriel College, Oxford, 1638, when only eleven years of age; removed thence to New College, and afterwards to Jesus College, of which he became scholar and fellow. In 1654 he was presented by his friend, Elias Ashmole, to the living of Bradfield; which, however, he quickly resigned; prebendary of Ripon, 1660; chaplain to King Charles II in 1666; D.D. and prebendary of Willsford and Woodford in Salisbury Cathedral, 1667; rector of St. Mary's, Reading, and Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1668; Dean of Bangor, 1672; canon residentiary of Sarum, 1674; vicar of St. Martin's, Westminster, 1676; promoted to this see, Sept. 30, 1680, and consecrated Oct. 3;<sup>2</sup> translated to Lichfield and Coventry in 1692, and in 1699 to Worcester. Having taken part against the Packingtons in a county election, a complaint was laid against him by the House of Commons, and he was deprived, in consequence, of his office of Lord Almoner, to which he had been appointed by William and Mary. He died at Hartlebury Castle, Aug. 30th, 1717, in the ninety-first year of his age, retaining all his faculties to the last, and was buried in the church of Fladbury, of which his son was rector, and in the chancel of which there is a monument to his memory. There are portraits of him at Leaton Knolls and at Cefn.

According to the judgment of Leland, Burnet, Wilkins, Whar-

<sup>1</sup> Sacheverell's *History of the Isle of Man*.

<sup>2</sup> For his excellent administration of the see, his committal to the Tower, and release, see pp. 114-124.



ton, and others, he was preeminent for learning, judgment, and piety. His published works embrace "Historical Account of Church Government as it was in Great Britain and Ireland when they first received the Christian Religion"; "A Chronological Account of the Life of Pythagoras"; "Five Tracts against Popery"; "Nine occasional Sermons"; "A Letter to Dr. William Sherlock"; "A Discourse on God's Ways of disposing Kingdoms"; "The Pretences of the French Invasion Examined"; "Explanation of Daniel's Seventy Weeks"; "A System of Chronology"; "The Chronology of the Bible"; "Harmony of the Gospels"; "A Translation into English and Latin of a Greek Epistle of Jeremy, a Priest of the Eastern Church." Besides which he left in manuscript "A Discourse of the Three Orders in the Ministry," and a "History of the Church of England"; assisted Bishop Wilkins in his "Essay towards a real Character and Philosophical Language"; and Wharton in his "Anglia Sacra," the second volume of which is dedicated to him;<sup>1</sup> and he is thought to have had the chief hand in the "Series Chronologica Olympiadum."

1692.—EDWARD JONES, D.D., *Bishop of Cloyne*. He was born at Llwyn-rhryd, in Forden; educated at Westminster School and at Trinity College, Cambridge, of which he became fellow in 1667; afterwards appointed Master of Kilkenny College, Dean of Lismore, and Bishop of Cloyne. He died in 1703, and was buried at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster.

1703.—GEORGE HOOPER, D.D., *Dean of Canterbury*. He was born in 1640, at Grimley in Worcestershire; educated at Westminster, and became student of Christ Church, Oxford; chaplain, together with Ken, to Bishop Morley of Winchester, and rector of Havant, which he exchanged for Woodhey, 1672; chaplain to Archbishop Sheldon and rector of Lambeth, 1675; precentor of Exeter; almoner to the Princess of Orange, 1677; twice offered and twice declined the Regius Professorship of Divinity at Oxford; king's chaplain, 1685; Dean of Canterbury, 1691; prolocutor of the Lower House, 1701; declined the primacy of Ireland, 1701; accepted this see, 1703; but at the instance of his old friend, the deprived Bishop Ken, removed the same year to Bath and Wells, where he remained till his death, in 1727, though offered in the

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<sup>1</sup> From the Dedication. "Tu primus me ad opus istud aggrediendum incitasti,.....consilio atque auctoritate tua inceptum opus promovisti. Tibi accepta referri debent plurima...monumenta.....Pars potior de antiqui cleri Wallensis statu, disciplina ac rebus gestis agit, teque maximum sui decus atque columnen clerus Wallensis hodiernus habet, quem jactitet et veneretur. In te Wallia diluit labem, qua propter literarum ignorantiam et religionis incuriam Gentiles tuos Giraldus Cambrensis olim aspersit. Utinam et illa, quibus Anglos advenas Wallensium episcopatus et sacerdotia occupantes, Giraldus proscidit, opprobria tam facile dilui possent."



interval the sees of London and of York. He published several sermons, and left in manuscript a Latin Treatise on Divorce. A life of him is printed in the appendix to Trevor's *Life and Times of William III.*

1704.—WILLIAM BEVERIDGE, D.D., "*the reviver and restorer of primitive Christianity.*" He was born in 1638, at Barrowe in Leicestershire, educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, and was "so well versed in all the learned languages that at eighteen he wrote a treatise on the excellency and use of the oriental tongues, especially Hebrew, Chaldee, Syriac, Arabic, and Samaritan." In 1660 he was collated by Bishop Sheldon, of London, to the vicarage of Ealing, which he resigned in 1672, on being elected to the rectory of St. Peter's, Cornhill; appointed a prebendary of St. Paul's, 1674; and Archdeacon of Colchester, 1681; chaplain to King William and Mary, and prebendary of Canterbury, 1684; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1704. Of his works, the following were published by himself, "*De Linguarum Orientalium, præsertim Hebraicæ, Chaldaicæ, Syriacæ, Arabicæ et Samaritanæ Præstantiâ et Usu,*" 1656, 8vo.; "*Institutio Chronologica Libri Duo,*" 1669, 4to.; "*Pandectæ Canonum,*" 2 vols. folio, 1672; "*Codex Canonum,*" 1679, 4to.; "*The Church Catechism Explained, for the Use of the Diocese of St. Asaph,*" 4to, 1704. The following were published after his death, by his executor, Mr. Timothy Gregory: "*Private Thoughts upon Religion,*" written when he was twenty-three years of age; "*Private Thoughts upon a Christian Life*"; "*The great Necessity and Advantage of Public Prayer and frequent Communion*"; one hundred and fifty sermons in 2 vols. folio, and twelve in 8vo.; "*A Defence of the Book of Psalms*"; "*Exposition of the Thirty-Nine Articles*"; and "*Thesaurus Theologicus,*" in 4 vols. 8vo.<sup>1</sup>

1708.—WILLIAM FLEETWOOD, D.D., *chaplain to the Queen and to the House of Commons.* Descended of the Lancashire family of this name, he was born in the Tower of London, 1656, and educated at Eton and King's College, Cambridge, of both of which he became a fellow; rector of St. Augustine's, and lecturer of St. Dunstan's, being then known as "*Silver-tongued Fleetwood*"; prebendary of Windsor, and rector of Wexham; chaplain to Queen Anne and the House of Commons. He was promoted to this see in 1708, and translated to Ely in 1714. His works were published in one volume, folio, in 1737, and embrace "*Twenty-six Sermons on Public Occasions,*" "*Essay on Miracles,*" "*The Reasonable Communicant,*" "*Fifteen Discourses on Relative Duties,*" "*Chronicon Pretiosum,*" "*Life of St. Winifred,*" letters, etc. A preface to "*Four Sermons*" published by him in 1712 gave so

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<sup>1</sup> Many of these works are said to have been written by him at Colfryn, near Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain.

much offence to the ministry of the day, that a motion was made in the House of Commons to burn it.

- 1715.—JOHN WYNNE, D.D., *Principal of Jesus College, Oxford*. He was born in 1667, at Maes-y-coed, in Caerwys, and educated at Ruthin School and Jesus College, Oxford, of which he became fellow; was chaplain to the Earl of Pembroke; and afterwards rector of Llangelynin in Carnarvonshire, and prebendary of Brecon; Lady Margaret's Professor of Divinity at Oxford, and prebendary of Worcester, 1705; Principal of Jesus College, 1712; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1715; translated to Wells, 1727, in succession to Bishop Hooper; died in 1743, and buried in Northop Church.

Whilst Tutor of Jesus College, Dr. Wynne published for the use of his pupils *An Abridgment of Locke's Essay upon the Human Understanding*, which was also translated into French.

- 1727.—FRANCIS HARE, D.D., *Dean of Worcester and Chaplain to George I.* Sprung of a Norfolk family, he was educated at Eton and King's College, Cambridge; was chaplain to the Duke of Marlborough in most of his campaigns; canon residentiary of St. Paul's, and rector of Barnes; Dean of Worcester and chaplain to George I in 1715; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1727; and translated to Chichester, 1731. "In 1717 he took a very active part, together with Drs. Sherlock and Snape, Bishop Potter, and others, in the 'Bangorian Controversy,' occasioned by Bishop Hoadley's sermon on 'The Nature of the Kingdom or Church of Christ'; and in the following year, partly on account of this, and partly from political motives, he and other distinguished men were superseded as royal chaplains." His works were published in 4 vols. 4to; the more important being "A Translation of the Psalms from the Hebrew," and "The Difficulties and Discouragements which attend the Study of the Scriptures." The last two volumes consist of political pamphlets in defence of the Duke of Marlborough and his policy.

- 1731.—THOMAS TANNER, D.D., *Archdeacon of Norfolk and Canon of Christ Church*. Born in 1674, at Market Lavington vicarage, Wilts, he graduated at Queen's College, Oxford, and became chaplain of All Souls, 1694, and fellow, 1696. At twenty-two years of age he published his learned *Notitia Monastica*. Chaplain to Bishop Moore of Norwich, his father-in-law, who collated him to the chancellorship, 1701; made him commissary for the archdeaconries of Norwich (1703) and of Sudbury, 1707; rector of Thorpe, 1706; prebendary of Ely, 1713; Archdeacon of Norfolk, 1721; canon of Christ Church, Oxford, 1723; Prolocutor of the Lower House of Convocation, 1727; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1731. Died at Christ Church, 1735.

"Vir in antiquitatibus Britannicis versatissimus, morum simplicitate primævâ venerabilis et propter virtutes tum domesticas, tum publicas, suis charissimus." (Dr. Richardson in *Continuatio*

*ad Godwin Com. de Præsul Anglie*, p. 646.) His published works were, *Notitia Monastica*, a small 8vo; an enlarged edition of which was published in folio, in 1744, by his brother, J. Tanner, precentor of St. Asaph; and a second edition of Wood's *Athenæ Oxonienses*, with above five hundred more lives, 2 vols. folio, 1721. He also left in manuscript *Bibliotheca Britannico-Hibernica*, and an enlarged version of Hegge's *Legend of St. Cuthbert, with the Antiquities of the Church of Durham*.

- 1736.—ISAAC MADDOX, D.D., *Dean of Wells*. He was born in London, and educated at Aberdeen and Queen's College, Cambridge; became rector of St. Vedast, Foster Lane; chaplain to Bishop Bradford of Chichester; king's chaplain, clerk of the closet to Queen Caroline, 1729; Dean of Wells, 1733; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1736; and translated to Worcester, 1743, in which cathedral his monument styles him "the institutor of infirmaries." Whilst Bishop of Worcester he wrote *An Answer to Neale's History of the Puritans*, a Charge to the clergy of his diocese, and a Thanksgiving Sermon on the Suppression of the Rebellion in 1746.
- 1743.—JOHN THOMAS, D.D., *Prebendary of Westminster and Canon of St. Paul's*. He was born at Dolgelley in 1681; sent to Merchant Taylors' School, and thence to Catherine Hall, Cambridge; appointed chaplain to the British Factory at Hamburgh, in which capacity he generally attended George II on his visits to the Electorate; rector of St. Vedast's, Foster Lane, 1736, in succession to Bishop Maddox; prebendary of Westminster and canon residentiary of St. Paul's, 1742; promoted to St. Asaph, 1743; but before his consecration translated to Lincoln, and thence, in 1761, to Salisbury. Whilst at Hamburgh he edited a periodical called *The Patriot*.
- 1743-4.—SAMUEL LISLE, D.D., *Warden of Wadham College, Oxford, and Archdeacon of Canterbury*. He was born at Blandford Forum, graduated at Wadham College; fellow, 1707; chaplain to the Levant Company, 1710; rector of Tooting, Surrey, and St. Mary-lebone, and domestic chaplain to Archbishop Wake, 1720; Archdeacon of Canterbury, 1724; canon, 1728; vicar of Northolt, 1729; Prolocutor of the Lower House of Convocation, 1734-41; Warden of Wadham College, 1739; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1743-4, and translated to Norwich, 1748. He published a few occasional Sermons, and left in manuscript Notes and Observations made in his travels in Asia Minor and the Holy Land; but with an express clause in his will, "that all his unpublished compositions should be burnt without being printed, transcribed, or seen by any one but his executors"; which injunction was complied with.
- 1748.—HON. ROBERT HAY DRUMMOND, D.D., *Prebendary of Westminster*. He was the second son of the seventh Earl of Kinnoull; was educated at Westminster and at Christ Church, Oxford, of



which he was a student ; rector of Bothal, and chaplain to the king, 1737 ; prebendary of Westminster, 1743 ; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1748 ; translated to Salisbury, 1761, and thence to York, and appointed Lord High Almoner. He preached the sermon at the coronation of George III, and published four single ones on special occasions. These have been reprinted at Edinburgh, 1803, with a Life by his son prefixed.

- 1761.—RICHARD NEWCOME, D.D., *Bishop of Llandaff*. Born at Aldenham Vicarage, Herts, in 1700, he became fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge, 1722 ; vicar of Hursley cum Otterbourne, 1726 ; rector of Stoke ; rector of Whitchurch, Salop, 1746 ; chaplain to the king ; canon of Windsor ; consecrated Bishop of Llandaff, 1755 ; translated to this see, 1761. He held the rectory of Whitchurch *in commendam* with his bishopric, and lived there almost entirely. He published a few occasional Sermons.
- 1769.—JONATHAN SHIPLEY, D.D., *Bishop of Llandaff*, and Dean of Winchester. Born at Twyford in 1714, he was educated at Reading School and at Christ Church, Oxford ; he became Clerk of the Closet to George III, and Chaplain General to the forces under William Duke of Cumberland, 1744 ; rector of Silchester, sinecure rector of Sherborne, and prebendary of Winchester, canon of Christ Church, Dean of Winchester, and rector of Chilbolton ; Bishop of Llandaff, 1769 ; and translated the same year to St. Asaph, retaining therewith his deanery, rectory, and sinecure. He published during his lifetime three Occasional Sermons, and a "Speech (intended to have been spoken) on the Bill for altering the Charter of Massachusetts's Bay." His works were afterwards published by his son, Dean Shipley, in 2 vols. 8vo, 1792.
- 1787.—SAMUEL HALIFAX, LL.D., D.D., F.S.A., *Bishop of Gloucester*. Born at Mansfield, Derbyshire, in 1733, he matriculated at Jesus College, Cambridge ; became fellow of Trinity Hall, and Professor of Arabic ; Regius Professor of Civil Law, 1770 ; chaplain to the King, Registrar of the Faculties in Doctors' Commons, vicar of Workop, Master of Jesus College ; Bishop of Gloucester, 1781 ; St. Asaph, 1787. Died 1790. (His epitaph, in Workop Church, was written by his father-in-law, the Rev. Dr. William Cooke, Dean of Ely and Provost of King's College, Cambridge.) Author of "Sermons on the Prophecies concerning the Christian Church, and in particular the Church of Rome," preached in Lincoln's Inn at the Warburtonian Lecture ; "Fourteen single Sermons" ; "Analysis of Butler's Analogy" ; and an "Analysis of the Roman Civil Law." He was also the editor of "Ogden's Sermons."
- 1790.—LEWIS BAGOT, LL.D., *Bishop of Norwich*. The third son of Sir Walter Bagot, he was educated at Westminster, and became student of Christ Church, Oxford ; rector of Jevington and Rye, Sussex ; canon of Christ Church, 1771 ; Dean of Christ Church,



- 1777; Bishop of Bristol, 1782; translated to Norwich, 1783 (on which occasion he resigned his deanery); St. Asaph, 1790. Died 1802. He preached the Warburtonian Lectures, published in 8vo, 1780.
- 1802.—SAMUEL HORSLEY, LL.D., F.R.S., F.S.A., *Bishop of Rochester*. Born in London, 1733, he graduated at Trinity Hall, Cambridge; became rector of St. Mary's, Newington, 1759; Albury, 1774; prebendary of St. Paul's, 1777; Archdeacon of St. Alban's, 1780; rector of South Weald, Essex, 1782; prebendary of Gloucester, 1786; Bishop of St. David's, 1787; translated to Rochester, with which he held the deanery of Westminster, 1793. His works, in fourteen volumes, were presented by Bishop Short to the cathedral library, and embrace "Tracts against Priestley," Gloucester, 1789; "Four Charges," Dundee, 1813; "Speeches in Parliament," 2 vols., Dundee, 1813; "Sermons," 3 vols., London, 1816; "The Book of Psalms, translated from the Hebrew," London; "Biblical Criticism, 4 vols., London, 1820; "Nine Sermons, with a Dissertation," London, 1822.
- 1806.—WILLIAM CLEAVER, D.D., *Bishop of Bangor, and Principal of Brasenose College, Oxford*. Born at Twyford, Bucks, 1742, he graduated at University College, Oxford; was appointed prebendary of Westminster, 1784; Principal of Brasenose, 1785; Bishop of Chester, 1787; translated to Bangor, 1800; and to St. Asaph, 1806,—on which occasion he resigned his headship. He published a "List of Books for the younger Clergy"; a Sermon for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, 1796; and a volume of Sermons, 1808.
- 1815.—JOHN LUXMOORE, D.D., *Bishop of Hereford*. Born at Okehampton, Devon, 1756, he was educated at Ottery St. Mary's School, Eton, and King's College, Cambridge; rector of St. George the Martyr; prebendary of Canterbury, 1794; Dean of Gloucester, 1800; rector of St. Andrew's, Holborn, 1806; consecrated to the see of Bristol, 1807; translated to Hereford, 1808; and to St. Asaph, 1815. He published a "Concio apud Synodum Cantuariensem MDCCCVI"; a "Sermon before the House of Lords," 1808; and a Sermon for the S. P. G., 1811.
- 1830.—WILLIAM CAREY, D.D., *Bishop of Exeter*. Born in 1770, he was educated at Westminster, 1784; and Christ Church, Oxford, 1789, of which he was a tutor and canon; perpetual curate of Cowley; Whitehall Preacher and prebendary of York, 1802; Head Master of Westminster School, 1803; prebendary of Westminster, 1809; vicar of King's Sutton, Yorkshire; Bishop of Exeter, 1820; translated to St. Asaph, 1830. Died 1846.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Bishop Carey bequeathed a large sum for the benefit of this diocese (p. 161); and his valuable library was sent, in 1853, to St. Thomas' College, Columbo.

1846.—THOMAS VOWLER SHORT, D.D., *Bishop of Sodor and Man*. The son of William Short, D.D., prebendary of Westminster, and Archdeacon of Cornwall, he was born at Dawlish, 1790, and educated at Exeter School, 1802; Westminster, 1803; and Christ Church, Oxford; student, 1809; Double First, 1812; Mathematical Lecturer, 1816, and perpetual curate of Cowley; Censor, 1819-29; Examiner, 1820; Proctor, 1823, and rector of Stokeley Pomeroy; rector of King's Worthy, Hants, 1826; Whitehall Preacher, 1821-30; University Preacher, 1823, 1830; rector of St. George's, Bloomsbury, 1834; Deputy Clerk of the Closet to the Queen, 1837; promoted to the see of Sodor and Man, 1841; and translated to St. Asaph, 1846; resigned 1870.<sup>1</sup>

He is the author of a "Sketch of the History of the Church of England to the Revolution of 1688," which has passed through many editions; and his works also embrace "A Letter to the Dean of Christ Church on the Public Examination," "Tabulæ Thucydideæ," "Tabulæ Herodotææ," "An Address from a Country Clergyman on Confirmation" (translated into Welsh) in 1822; "Sermons on some of the Fundamentals of Christianity," 1829; Visitation Sermon, 1830; "Sadoe and Miriam" (Anon.), 1832; Sermon on the Consecration of the Bishop of Ripon," 1836; "Lectures on St. Luke," 1837; "Letters to an Aged Mother"; and "Parochialia," papers printed for the use of the parish of St. George, Bloomsbury, 1834-41; "What is Christianity?" 1842; "Charges delivered to the Convocation held at Bishop's Court, Isle of Man," 1842, 3, 4, 5; "Charges to the Clergy of the Diocese of St. Asaph," 1847 (with an Appendix on Catechising), 50, 3, 6, 9, 62, 5; besides many papers and sheets on educational subjects, published by the S. P. C. K.

1870.—JOSHUA HUGHES, D.D. Cantuar.; St. David's College, Lampeter; B.D. 1867; vicar of Llandingat with Llanfair-ar-y-bryn, 1846-70; Rural Dean of Llangattock, and Proctor in Convocation for the diocese of St. David's; promoted to the bishopric of St. Asaph 1870; elected April 17th; consecrated in the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, together with the Bishops of Chichester and Zululand, May 8th; and publicly enthroned in his Cathedral, May 19th.

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<sup>1</sup> The Diocesan Church Building Society's Report, 1870, states that "one fourth of the annual subscriptions has been, for the last twenty-four years, the liberal contribution of Bishop Short; and this in addition to an equally liberal donation towards every work of Church building or Church restoration that has been set on foot in the diocese."

## ARCHDEACONS.

- 1120.—DANIEL AP SULIEN, son of Sulien and brother of Rhyddmarch, both Bishops of St. David's, and himself elected by the Scholars of that see, on the death of Griffri, or Wilfrid, A.D. 1115, to be their bishop, in opposition to the Norman Bernard, the nominee of Henry I. He appears in *Brut y Tywysogion* as "Archdiagon Powys," and as "Cymodredwr y rhwng" (mediator between) "Gwynedd a Phowys." Died A.D. 1124 or 1127. Caradoc of Llan-garvan describes him as "Y doethaf a'r crefyddusaf o Esgobion y Brytaniaid, achlodforusaf o herwydd dyscu eiddisgyblion a'i blwyfau." (*Brut y Tywysogion* in *Myvyrian Archaeology*, 1870, p. 622; *Councils*, i, 308.)
- 1170.—DAVID, suspended by Pope Alexander III for joining in the coronation of Prince Henry, A.D. 1170. (*Councils*, i, 376.)
- 1231.—DAVID, "Archidiac. Assav. nuncius a Lewelino Principe habet saluum conduct' 15 Hen. III.—W. A. (Bp. Fleetwood), MS. notes to Wharton.
- 1250.—ANIAN, witness to Bishop Anian's confirmation of charters of Haughmond Abbey.
- 1266.—DAVID, "Archid. de Sto. Asaph habet Literas Regis de conductu, 50 Hen. III." (W. A. *supra*.) Also mentioned in *Llyfr Côch*, *sub anno* 1272.
- 1278.—GRUFFYDD, a witness to the will of Griffin ap Wenwynwyn, Prince of Powys, and executor to Bishop Anian II. Resigned 1306. (*Montgomeryshire Collections*, i, 43; *Llyfr Côch*, 24.)
- 1306.—WILLIAM DE TESTA, Chaplain to the Pope, and Administrator of the Spiritualities of the see of Canterbury.
- 1307.—LLEWELYN AP HOVA, "obiit A.D. 1330, vir tunc maxime insignis." (Wharton, 334.)
- 1357.—WILLIAM DE SPRIDLINGTON, Dean of St. Asaph, promoted to the bishopric, 1376.
- 1375.—ITHEL AP ROBERT. (Pennant's *Whitford*, 119.)
- 1382.—RUSHOOKE, Thomas,<sup>1</sup> D.D., a Friar Preacher, Confessor to the King; appointed Bishop of Llandaff, 1383; translated to Chichester, 1385. (Godwin, ed. 1615, p. 531.)

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<sup>1</sup> Those names which follow the Welsh system of nomenclature, as Llewelyn ap Hova, Ithel ap Robert, and those which have a Latin form, as William de Testa, William de Spridlington, have the *Christian* name put first; but those which follow the English system, as Thomas Rushooke, Gruffydd Yonge, have the *surname* placed first.



- 1386.—DAVID VYCHAN AP DAVID.
- 1398.—YONGE, Gruffydd, LL.D., Chancellor of St. David's, 1397. Siding with Owen Glyndwr, he was made his chancellor, and sent by him as ambassador to Charles VI, king of France.
- 1442.—TUBNEY, John, rector of Southfleet in the diocese of Rochester. On the east window of Disserth Church was the following inscription, "Orate pro bono statu Johannis Tubney Archid."
- 1508.—CONWAY, Peter. He left twenty marcs to be distributed to each of the churches of Northop, Rhuddlan, Disserth, and Newmarket.
- 1534.—SKELTON, Richard, Master of Mettingham College, Suffolk, and rector of Goldhanger, Essex. Died 1539.
- 1539.—POLLARD or AP HOLLARD, Richard, ejected by Queen Mary for being married.
- 1553.—EDWARDS, Humphrey, in his turn ejected by Queen Elizabeth.
- 1558.—DAVIES, Thomas, D.D., Chancellor of Bangor, 1546; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1561.
- 1560.—ROGERS, Richard, M.A. Christ's College, Cambridge; S. T. B., 1562. "Magister Richardus Rogers, Diaconus, ut ipse suis literis attestatus est, Archidiaconus Asaphensis, eruditus et absens." (Bp. R. Davies' Return to Abp. Parker, A.D. 1560. B. Willis, ii, 137.) Bishop Suffragan of Dover, Dec. 1, 1560; Dean of Canterbury, 1584.
- 1566.—POWELL, Thomas, on the resignation of Bishop Rogers; rector of Llanfechain, and one of the Proctors for the clergy in the Convocation of 1562; rector of Hirnant, 1588. Died 1589.
- 1573.—A Faculty was granted by Archbishop Parker to Bishop Hughes to hold the archdeaconry, the rectory of Llysfaen, and other benefices, to the value of £150, together with his bishopric;<sup>1</sup> and from that time, or rather from the next vacancy, *i. e.* 1589, the office of archdeacon was held *in commendam* with the bishopric till 1843-4, when the Act 6 and 7 Victoria again revived its separate exercise; and an Order in Council of the 31 January, 1844, divided its duties among two Archdeacons, those of St. Asaph and Montgomery,—the former to include those parts of the diocese that lie in Denbighshire, Flintshire, and Shropshire; and the latter those which lie in the counties of Montgomery and Merioneth. The endowment to consist of a residentiary canonry of the value of £350 per ann., to be attached to the dignity. Archdeacons were consequently appointed in 1844, but did not enter upon the full exercise of their office until the death of Dean Luxmoore, the Chancellor, in 1854.

<sup>1</sup> See p. 91 *supra*.



## ARCHDEACONS OF ST. ASAPH.

- 1844.—CLOUGH, Charles Butler, M.A., St. John's College, Cambridge; rector of Llanferras, 1821; and vicar of Mold, 1825-1844; Dean, 1854.
- 1854.—WICKHAM, Robert, M.A., Christ Church, Oxford; second class Lit. Hum., 1823; vicar of Gresford, and Examining Chaplain to Bishop Short, 1847. Author of "Is the Offertory without Communion required by the Church," a pamphlet, 1844; "The Rubrics of the Communion Service Examined," a pamphlet, 1845; and several archidiaconal Charges.
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## ARCHDEACONS OF MONTGOMERY.

- 1844.—CLIVE, William, M.A., St. John's College, Cambridge; vicar of Welshpool, 1819-65; chaplain to the Duke of Northumberland, 1824; Hon. Canon of St. Asaph, 1849; Archdeacon of Montgomery, 1844; resigned 1861; rector of Blymhill, diocese of Lichfield, 1865.
- 1861.—FFOULKES, Henry Powell, M.A., Balliol College, Oxford; fourth class Lit. Hum., 1837; St. Matthew's, Buckley, 1840-57; rector of Llandyssil, 1857; Archdeacon of Montgomery and Canon Residentiary, 1861.
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## CHANCELLORS OF THE DIOCESE.

- 1356.—DAVID DE ENGLEFIELD, "Canon. Assav., Vicarius Generalis, Epat' Assav. vacante, habuit custodiam spiritualium a 3 Febr. ad 9 Nov. 1357. Reg. Islip. K." (W. A. in Wharton.)
- 1452.—DAVID KYFFIN.
- 1507.—ROBERT AP RHYS.
- 1513.—SALUSBURY, Ffoulk, Dean, 1511.
- 1531.—ROBERT AP RICE, M.A., of Plas Iolyn.
- 1537.—PRICE, Ellis, of Plas Iolyn, second son of the above; LL.D. of Cambridge; Commissarie General of the diocese at the dissolution of the monasteries.
- 1546.—GRIFFITH, Maurice, B.D., a Dominican or Black Friar; LL.B. Oxford, 1532; vicar of Berriew and Archdeacon of Rochester, 1537; Bishop of Rochester, 1554-59.
- 1559.—PRICE, John, LL.D.
- 1570.—MEYRICK, Edmund, LL.D., brother of Rowland Meyrick, Bishop of Bangor; sinecure rector of Corwen, 1560; Archdeacon of Bangor (and as such signed the Thirty-Nine Articles in the Convocation of 1562); prebendary of Bokenshull in Lichfield Cathedral.
- 1576.—JONES, Thomas, LL.D., All Souls' College, Oxford; Chancellor of Rochester, 1614.
- 1595.—SMITH, George, LL.B., vicar of Llangernyw, 1574; sinecure rector of Northop, 1584; vicar of Cwm, 1594. Died 1608. He is supposed by the compiler of *Llyfryddiaeth y Cymru* to be identical with "Rosier Smith o Lanelwy, Athraw o Theologyddiaeth," who published on the Continent several Popish books in 1609, 1611, 1615, 1618; but by the editor of that work he is more correctly believed to have been quite a different person. (*Llyfryddiaeth y Cymry*, pp. 90, 91.)
- 1603.—GOODERE, Samuel, LL.D.
- 1605.—WOOD, Basil, LL.D., fellow of All Souls' College, Oxford, 1603; Chancellor of Rochester, 1618.
- 1627.—GRIFFITH, William, LL.D., New College, Oxford; Chancellor of Bangor, 1629.
- 1660.—OWEN, Robert, LL.B., eldest son of the late Bishop Owen.
- 1661.—JONES, Sir Thomas, LL.D., Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

- 1670.—POWELL, Robert, D.D., made fellow of All Souls by the Parliamentary Visitors, 1648; King's Chaplain and Canon of St. Asaph, 1660; rector of Whittington and Archdeacon of Salop, 1666.
- 1683.—EDWARDS, John, LL.D., rector of Knockin and of Llanymynech, 1666; Prebendary of Meliden, 1674.
- 1685.—WYNNE, Hugh, LL.D., fellow of All Souls'; deprived as a Non-juror.
- 1690.—WYNNE, Robert, D.D., of the family of Garthewin; fellow of Jesus College, Oxford; and brother of William Wynne, M.A., fellow of that college, who augmented and re-edited Dr. Powel's "Translation of the History of Wales by Caradoc of Llancarvan." He became vicar of Gresford, 1690; Chancellor of the Diocese, 1690; Prebendary of Llanfair, 1691; Prebendary of Llannefydd, and Chancellor of the Cathedral, 1693; and sinecure rector of Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain, 1719. He wrote a "Discourse on the Martyrdom of King Charles I," published 1704; and drew up the "Short Narrative of the Proceedings against the Bishop of St. Asaph," 1702.
- 1743.—SALISBURY, Sir Thomas, Knt., of Bachegraig, LL.D.; fellow of Trinity Hall, Cambridge; Justice in Eyre, south of Trent, and Judge of the Admiralty Court, 1741.
- 1773.—Shipley, William Davies, M.A., son of Bishop Shipley; Dean, 1774.
- 1826.—LUXMOORE, Charles Scott, M.A., son of Bishop Luxmoore; Dean, 1826.
- 1854.—CLOUGH, Charles, Butler, M.A.; Archdeacon, 1844; Dean, 1854.
- 1859.—BONNOR, Richard Bonnor Maurice, M.A. Christ Church, Oxford. Dean, 1859.

## DEANS.

- 1210.—“Ithel fil. Alani,” Decanus, witnessed Bishop Reyner’s charter to Oswestry Hospital. (Eyton.)
- 1223.—DAVID DE WITINTON attested a taxation of the vicarage of Oswestry.
- 1239.—R——, witness to the Bishop Hugh’s grant to the nuns of Llanllugan. (B. Willis, ii, 21.)
- 1244.—DAVID, probably the same who, with Bishop Anian, attested a release of tithes in Kinnerley to Haughmon Abbey. (Eyton’s *Shropshire*, x, 373.)
- 1279.—ANIAN.
- 1293.—R——, present at the institution of a clerk to the vicarage of Wrexham.
- 1299.—ANIAN.
- 1305.—LLEWELYN, deputed, together with Gruffydd, the Archdeacon, to collect the subsidies demanded of the clergy by Edward I. (*Llyfr Côch*, p. 82.)
- 1307.—ANIAN, “Anianus Decanus Assav. et L. Archidiac., ejusdem loci miserunt ad Parl. apud Carleol.; Madoc Gôch, Can. As., et Howelum R. eccl’ie de Llanarmon.” (Rot. Parl. 35 Edw. I, K.) He was also “Administrator Spiritualium in Sede Bangor vacante 1309.” (Reg. Winchelsea, K.)
- 1339.—LLEWELYN AP MADOC, promoted to the bishopric in 1357. (For the dispute as to the next appointment, see p. 63.)
- 1357.—ROBERT DE WALSHAM, nominated by Edward Prince of Wales.  
 „ —WILLIAM DE SPRIDLINGTON, promoted to the bishopric, 1376.
- 1376.—ALAN DE STOKES, named with Bishop Spridlington, as executors to his will by the Black Prince. (Reg. Bockingham Epi. Linc.)
- 1381.—HOWEL AP MADOC KYFFIN, appointed guardian of the temporalities of the see on the death of Bishop Child in 1389. (See his Return thereof, p. 64.)
- 1397.—COLLINGHAM, Hugh, Prebendary of St. Paul’s, 1402.
- 1402.—COURTENAY, Richard, a kinsman of Archbishop Courtenay; Precentor of Chichester, 1397-1410; Canon of York, 1403; and of Wells, 1408; Chancellor of Oxford, 1406, 1411, 1412; Dean of Wells, 1410; Bishop of Norwich and Archdeacon of Northampton, 1413.



- 1404.—HOLBECHE, Hugh, rector of Northop and Warden of Flint Chapel ; Prebendary of Lichfield.
- 1418.—BLODWEL, John, Canon of St. David's; appeared as Proctor for Bishop Langley, of Durham, at the Council of Basil, 1431. He resigned in 1441, owing to old age and infirmity; and died at Balsham in 1462, in the chancel of which church there is a monumental brass to his memory. He was succeeded in both his deanery and canonry by his kinsman.
- 1441.—BLODWEL, David.
- 1462.—TAPTON, John, Master of Clare College, Cambridge; Prebendary of Stoke Clare, Suffolk; and also of Liddington, in Lincoln Cathedral.
- 1511.—SALISBURY, Ffoulk, Chancellor, 1513. He was also rector of Llanrhaidr and Llandyrnog, in the diocese, and Prebendary of Llanfair in the Cathedral, of Bangor.
- 1543.—PUSKIN, Richard, rector of Bodvari, 1537; resigned, or more probably deprived by Queen Mary.
- 1556.—GRIFFITH, John, LL.B., Treasurer of Llandaff and Canon of Salisbury.
- 1557.—BLAYNE, *alias* GRIFFITH, Maurice, LL.B. "In veteri Registro: 'Et nos Mauritius Blayne alias Gruff. in Leg. Bacc. Decanus Ecclesiæ Cathedralis Elguens alias Asaphens., et Capit. Dat v. mense Augusti A.D. 1557.'" From the same book it also appears that he called himself Dean on Feb. 27, in the first year of Elizabeth. (W. A. MS. in Warton.) But *John Griffith* is named as Dean, and as such confirmed the statutes of the Cathedral, 30th May, 1558. (B. Willis, ii, 134.) He died 1559, K.
- 1559.—LLOYD, Johannes, LL.B.; appointed April 4, 1559, but deprived "ob contumaciam" (*i. e.*, for his religion), in the church of All Souls, Stratford-on-Avon, Nov. 3.
- 1560.—EVANS, Hugh, M.A., Brasenose College, Oxford; Prebendary of Hoxton, in St. Paul's Cathedral; sinecure rector of Cwm, 1570-74; vicar of Northop, 1571-77; rector of Cerrig-y-Druidion, 1581-87. He is named as one of the few "concionatores evangelici" in Bishop R. Davies's Return to Archbishop Parker, A.D. 1560.
- 1587.—BANKS, Thomas, A.M., sinecure rector of Caerwys and Llangwm, 1582-84; sinecure rector of Pennant, 1583-88; canon, 1585-87; sinecure rector of Llansantffraid-yn-Mechain, 1585-1600; sinecure rector of Llandrillo-yn-Edeirnion, 1600-34. He published a sermon in 1586.
- 1634.—MAURICE, Andrew, A.M., Oriel College, Oxford, and chaplain of All Souls; comptroller of Llansannan, and vicar of Corwen, 1641; of all of which he was deprived during the Commonwealth, and died 1563 or 1564.

- 1660.—LLOYD, David, D.C.L., fellow of All Souls'; Prebendary of Chester, and chaplain to the Earl of Derby. He was of Berthlwyd, Montgomeryshire; became fellow of All Souls, 1617; subsequently chaplain to the Earl of Derby; rector of Trefdraeth, 1641; but exchanged it for Llangynhafal, 1642; and the same year he was made vicar of Llanfair, D.C., and Warden of Ruthin. He was also Prebendary of Chester. On the breaking out of the Rebellion he was deprived of all his preferments; but recovered them on the Restoration; was promoted to the deanery in 1660, and made one of the comportioners of Llansannan in 1662. "He was esteemed a good poet, and wrote several songs, sonnets, and elegies.....but his best known work was 'The Legend of Captain Jones,' a burlesque, first published in London, 1656, and frequently afterwards reprinted; said to be an imitation of a Welsh poem called 'Richard Sion Greulon.'" (*Eminent Welshmen.*)
- 1663.—LLOYD, Humphrey, D.D., Bishop of Bangor, 1673. Born at Bodyfudden, in Trawsfynydd parish, he entered at Oriel, became scholar of Jesus, fellow and tutor of Oriel; and when the King and court were settled in Oxford, chaplain to Archbishop Williams, who gave him the prebend of Ampleford, in York Cathedral. On the death of his father he succeeded him as vicar of Rhuabon, 1646; lost his preferments during the civil war, but recovered them on the Restoration; was made Canon of St. Asaph, 1661; Dean, 1663; vicar of Gresford, 1673, in succession to his brother Samuel; and the same year promoted to the bishopric of Bangor. He died in 1688.
- 1673.—STRATFORD, Nicholas, D.D., Bishop of Chester, 1689. Born at Hempstead, Herts, he became scholar of Trinity College, Oxford, 1652; fellow, 1659; Warden of the Collegiate Church of Manchester, 1667-84; Prebendary of Lincoln, 1670; sinecure rector of Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain, 1671; Dean of St. Asaph and chaplain in ordinary to the King, 1673; rector of St. Mary, Aldermanbury, 1683; and Bishop of Chester, 1689. He published three sermons and several other works.
- 1689.—BRIGHT, George, D.D. Born at Epsom, he became fellow of Emmanuel College, Cambridge; rector of Loughborough, and chaplain to Mary, Princess of Orange; Dean of St. Asaph, 1689; died 1696. "Dr. Bright did collect and publish the first volume of Dr. J. Lightfoot's works, containing all those English books which had been put out by the said Lightfoot in his lifetime. 1684; folio. Mr. Strype published the second volume, with a preface and Appendix to the Life of Lightfoot by Dr. Bright; which Appendix is larger than the Life itself." (A. Wood, *Athen. Oxon.*, ii, 860.) He also published some sermons. (B. Willis.)
- 1696.—PRICE, Daniel, A.M., fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge; rector of Aspenden and Westmill, diocese of Rochester; sinecure

rector of Lllansantffraid-ym-Mechain. "He was a relation of Bishop Jones; and being found guilty of simony in procuring this last, was deprived of it." (Proceedings against the Bishop of St. Asaph, 25, 52.)

- 1706.—STANLEY, William, D.D., nephew of Bishop Beveridge. He entered at St. John's College, Cambridge, 1663, and became fellow of Bennett College; chaplain to the Earl of Essex; rector of Rayne Parva, 1681; exchanged, in 1682, for St. Mary Magdalene, Old Fish Street, London; and this, again, for Much Hadham, Essex; Prebendary of Colington Major, in St. Paul's, 1684; chaplain to the Princess of Orange, 1687; Canon Residentiary of St. Paul's, 1689; Archdeacon of London in succession to Bishop Tennison, 1691-2; and Dean of St. Asaph, 1706, "which he accepted," writes B. Willis, "to set his uncle free from the powerful solicitations of others,"—a modest reason, amply confirmed by his subsequent refusal of three bishoprics. He afterwards accepted the Mastership of his old college (Bennett's), and, dying in 1731, was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral. He joined Bishop Fleetwood in procuring the passing of the Mortuary Act, 1712, and rebuilt part of the Deanery. Besides Sermons, he published anonymously, "A Discourse upon the Devotions of the Church of Rome, and those of the Church of England," 1685, 4to; and "The Faith and Practice of a Church of England Man," 1706, which was translated into Welsh by Edward Samuel, rector of Llangar; and re-edited, in English, in 1848, by the Rev. Robt. Eden, with "Notes and an Introductory Essay on the Leading Principles of the Church of England."
- 1731.—POWELL, William, A.M., nephew of Bishop Fleetwood; educated at Eton and St. John's College, Cambridge, he became vicar of Lambourne; sinecure rector of Llangwm, 1710-51; rector of Llanymynech, 1713-29; and vicar of Llanyblodwel, 1713-31; Dean, and sinecure rector of Hope, 1731.
- 1751.—HERRING, William, D.D., fellow of Clare Hall, Cambridge, and nephew of Archbishop Herring, who, when Bishop of Bangor, made him his chaplain; when Archbishop of York, made him Prebendary of Apesthorpe, in York Cathedral, 1744; and rector of Bolton Percy, 1747; and when translated to Canterbury, appointed him Dean of St. Asaph and Precentor of Salisbury.
- 1774.—SHIPLEY, William Davies, M.A., son of Bishop Shipley; rector of Ysceiviog, 1770-1826; vicar of Wrexham, 1771-1826; sinecure rector of Llangwm, 1772-75; Corwen, 1774-82; Llanarmon-yn-Iâl, 1782-1826; Chancellor of the Diocese, 1773-1826. He published a "Sermon for the Benefit of Chester Infirmary," preached in Wrexham Church, 1790.
- 1826.—LUXMOORE, Charles Scott, M.A., son of Bishop of Luxmoore, who, as Bishop of Hereford, appointed him rector of Cradley,

vicar of Bromyard, and Prebendary of Hereford ; and, as Bishop of St. Asaph, added the sinecure rectory of Darowen, 1819; the Deanery and the Chancellorship, 1826.

1854.—CLOUGH, Charles Butler, M.A., educated at Rugby and St. John's College, Cambridge ; rector of Llanverras, 1821 ; and vicar of Mold, 1825-54 ; Archdeacon of St. Asaph, 1844 ; Hon. Canon, 1849 ; Dean and Chancellor, 1854. He published three Sermons.

1859.—BONNOR, Richard Bonnor Maurice, M.A. Christ Church, Oxford ; third Classics, second Mathematics, 1825 ; Perpetual Curate of Trinity Church, Oswestry, 1837-42 ; vicar of Rhuabon, 1842-59 ; Rural Dean, 1848 ; Hon. Canon, 1850 ; Dean and Chancellor, 1859 ; author of a Sermon on "Church Restoration," and of papers on the Diocesan Church Building and other Societies.



## PREBENDARIES OF FAENOL.

## THE PRECENTORS OF THE CATHEDRAL.

- 1239.—G... "Cantor Ecclesie Assavens." Witness to Bishop Hugh's appropriations of Llanfair-Caer-Einion to the nuns of Llanllugan. (B. Willis, ii, 24, App. III.)
- 1291.—THOMAS, "Canonia Thome p'sbri in parochia ipsius Ecclesie et in Capella de Dymneychawn & Llangernyw.
- 1516.—MADDOX, Robert.
- 1534.—BRETTON (Bruton or Breiton), John ap Howel, signed the Declaration of the Dean and Chapter renouncing the supremacy of the Pope.
- 1538.—BURCHENSHAW, Maurice, A.M.; rector of Denbigh, 1543, and Canon of Wells. Bishop Parfew (or Wharton) charged this prebend, in 1539, with a pension of £10 a year, to be paid to his relative, J. Parfew, till he should be preferred to a sinecure of the same value. He was made Prebendary of Llanefydd, 1556.
- 1564.—YALE, Thomas, LL.D., Dean of Arches; Chancellor of Bangor, 1570.
- 1578.—YALE, David, D.D., rector of Llandegla, 1564; Prebendary of Chester, 1582; and Chancellor of that diocese, 1622.
- 1625.—DOLBEN, David, D.D., *Bishop of Bangor*, 1631. Born at Segroit, 1581, he graduated at St. John's College, Cambridge; became vicar of Llangernyw, 1621; and Canon of St. Asaph, 1624. He was also vicar of Hackney, and promoted to the bishopric of Bangor, 1631, with which he continued to retain his prebend till his death in 1633.
- 1633.—WILLIAMS, Hugh, D.D., rector of Llantrisant, Anglesea, 1626; comportioner of Llandinam and Canon of Bangor, 1632; rector of Llanrhyddlad and Prebend of Vaenol, 1633. He was the father of Sir William Williams, the Speaker, the founder of the families of Wynnstay and Bodelwyddan.
- 1671.—LLOYD, David, A.M., chaplain to Bishop Barrow. Born at Pant Mawr, and educated at Ruthin School and Oriel College, Oxford, he became rector of Ibston, 1658; but resigned it on being appointed Reader to the Charterhouse, 1659; was presented by Bishop Barrow to the vicarage of Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain, and a canonry, in 1670; and the following year promoted to this prebend and the vicarage of Abergele, with the rectory of Llanddulas, 1672; but these two he exchanged, in 1677, for the vicarage of Northop, where he taught the Free School, and had daily service. He was the author of several works (of which a list is given in Wood's *Athenæ Oxonienses*), the best known of which were "Church

Worthies, or the Lives of the Right Rev. Archbishops, the Rev. Bishops, Doctors, and Eminent Divines, since the Reformation ;” “State Worthies, or the Statesmen and Favourites of England since the Reformation,” a thick 8vo, first ed. 1665; second, 1670; “Wonders no Miracles,” 1666; and “Memories of the Lives, Actions, Sufferings, and Deaths, of those Noble, Reverend, and Excellent Personages that suffered by Death, Sequestration, Decimation, or otherwise, for the Protestant Religion and the great Principles thereof, Alliance to their Sovereigne, in our late intestine Wars from 1637 to the year 1666, with the Life and Martyrdom of King Charles I,” 1668.

1691.—MAURICE, David, D.D., son of Dean Maurice; vicar of Llanasa, 1666-84; Prebendary of Meifod, 1666; rector of Gwytherin, 1675; comportioner of Llanfair, 1677; vicar of Abergele and Bettws, 1681; Prebendary of Faenol, 1691; and sinecure rector of Llanarmon yn Ial, 1695. “Florentem ætatem in juventute erudienda contrivit,—hac in Ecclesia prædicando assidue fatigavit maturiores annos.” (Epitaph in Bettws Church.)

1697.—DAVIES, John, D.D., of the family of Llannerch and Gwysaney, entered at Trinity College, Cambridge; was made fellow of Peter House, and became rector of the family living of Kingsland, Herefordshire; vicar of Kerry, Precentor of St. David's, and Prebendary of Hereford and St. Asaph.

1733.—TANNER, John, A.M., brother of Bishop Tanner; vicar of Lowestoft, and Commissary to the Archdeacon of Suffolk. He published, in 1744, an enlarged and improved folio edition of his learned brother's *Notitia Monastica*.

1760.—MARSDEN, John, D.D., student of Christ Church, Oxford; rector of Llandyssil, 1760; rector of Bolton Percy, and Prebendary of Southwell.

1796.—BAGOT, Walter, A.M., brother of the Bishop, rector of Blithfield and Leigh, Staffordshire.

1806.—SNEYD, Ralph, LL.B., sinecure rector of Corwen, 1796-1808.

1808.—DEAN, John, B.D., sinecure rector of Corwen, both of which he resigned.

1809.—CLEAVER, William, M.A., student of Christ Church, Oxford, obtained the Chancellor's prize for Latin verse in 1808,—subject, “Delphi”; and the following year was presented by his father to the prebend of Faenol and the sinecure rectories of Llanfor and Corwen; the two former of which he held till his death in 1854, and the last till 1812. In 1811 he was collated to the rectory of Newtown; and exchanged it in 1814 for that of Denbigh, which he resigned in 1818.

Mr. Cleaver was distinguished for his great charity and kindness of heart. (Johnes' *Essay*, 199, 219.) On his death the prebend lapsed to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

## PREBENDARIES OF LLANNEFYDD.

## THE CHANCELLORS OF THE CATHEDRAL.

1241.—DAVID.

1291.—ITHEL ap Davydd. "Canonia Ithael ap D'd in ipsa ecclesia et p'ventus sui ap' Kilfurn." (Cilowen et Cyrchynan ?)

1304.—CYNWRIC LLWYD.

1385.—JOHN DE EXETER.

1520.—STANDISH, Richard, LL.D. Camb.; rector of Standish, and a relative of the Bishop.

1552.—WILLIAMS, John.

1556.—PARFEW, J. See under Preb. Faenol, 1539.

1559.—WHETTELS, Robert, presented by Queen Elizabeth on the deprivation of his predecessor. Bishop R. Davies describes him in his Return (1560) as "adhuc puer, de eruditione et habitatione nobis non constat"; and Bishop Thomas Davies, in his Visitation in 1570, passed sentence of deprivation upon him as being a mere layman. He appears, however, notwithstanding this, to have retained his stall till his death.

1577.—LEWEN, William, LL.B., Dean of the Court of Arches.

1598.—VAUGHAN, William, D.D., vicar of Llanarmon-yn-Iâl, 1567-80; sinecure rector of Llanrhaiadr, 1574-90; compportioner of Llansannan, 1580-97; rector of Carreg-y-drudion, 1587-97; Llangwm, 1593-8; Prebendary of Meifod, 1596; Prebendary of Llannefydd, 1598.

1598.—GLYNNE, Richard, Prebendary of Llanfair in Bangor Cathedral, rector of Llantrisaint, and Archdeacon of Bangor, 1613.

1617.—DAVIES, John, D.D., *the eminent Welsh Grammarian and Lexicographer*. He was born at Llanferras, and is said to have been educated at Ruthin School, under Dr. Parry; but it is more probable, on the ground of chronology, that he took his degree at Jesus College, Oxford, first, and afterwards became an assistant master there. In 1604 he was presented by the Crown to the rectory of Mallwyd; and on the promotion of Dr. Parry to the bishopric, he was appointed his chaplain. Returning to Oxford in 1608, he was elected Reader of the Sentences at Lincoln College; and coming back, after a short interval, to his rectory, he was made a Canon in 1612; and rector of the neighbouring parish of Llanymawddwy in 1613; to which was added the sinecure rectory of Darowen, another adjoining parish, in 1615.

Dr. Davies assisted Bishop Parry in bringing out his revised and corrected edition of Bishop Morgan's Bible in 1620,—an edition which may even yet be called the standard Welsh version.



In 1621 he published a Welsh grammar entitled "*Antiquæ Linguae Britannicæ Rudimenta*," 12mo; of which a second edition, in Latin, was published at Oxford, in 1809, by the Rev. Henry Parry, M.A., vicar of Llanasa. In 1632 he published his famous Dictionary, under the title, "*Antiquæ Linguae Britannicæ Dictionary Duplex*," the first part being Welsh and Latin, the second Latin and Welsh. A second edition of the Welsh-Latin portion appeared at Amsterdam in 1645, but without the Hebrew and other comparisons. The Latin-Welsh portion was a revised and abbreviated edition of an elaborate work, full of quotations from Welsh authors, left in manuscript by Dr. Thomas Williams, a physician of Trefriw. Dr. Davies' Dictionary continued for two centuries the great authority on its subject, until it was superseded by Dr. Owen Pughe's most valuable work. He also published a translation into Welsh of the Catechism and Articles, and also "*Llyfr y Resolution*"; all of which have passed through several editions, and the last of which has appeared under the new title of "*Dyhewyd y Cristion*." He also made a large collection of Welsh poems and proverbs, some of which were published in 1710 as "*Flores Poetarum Britannicorum*," and "*Blodeuog Waith y Prydyddion Bryttanaidd*" and others are preserved in the Bodleian Library and the British Museum. He died and was buried at Mallwyd in 1644, where his epitaph claims to be "*in virtutis potius quam nominis memoria*." (*Eminent Welshmen and Llyfryddiaeth y Cymru*.)

- 1644.—ERSKINE, William, D.D., sinecure rector of Cwm, 1644-53.
- 1660.—WILLIAMS, Johu, A.M., vicar of Machynlleth, 1616-17; sinecure rector of Northop, 1624; rector of Llanymynach, 1625-27; rector of Llanfyllin, 1627-31; vicar of Llanrhaiaadr, 1625. Deprived of both his preferments; but on the Restoration he recovered them, and was promoted to this prebend. Died 1662.
- 1662.—SPARK, Archibald, B.D. of the University of Aberdeen; vicar choral, 1632; Canon, 1637; rector of Hirnant, 1637-8; and vicar of Corwen, 1637-9; vicar of Northop, 1639. Deprived, but reinstated at the Restoration; and promoted to this stall, 1662.
- 1669.—ELLIS, John, D.D., Wadham College, Oxford. He was chaplain of New College, 1661; Precentor of St. David's, 1678; rector of Llanddyfnan, Anglesea, and of Llanfor, 1668. Died in Shrewsbury, 1693; buried in St. Chad's Church.
- 1693.—WYNNE, Robert, D.D., Chancellor of the Diocese, 1690.
- 1743.—DUBERDIEU, John, A.M., vicar of Low Leyton, Essex.
- 1754.—EYRE, Venn, A.M., of Catherine Hall, Cambridge; rector of Stanbridge, Essex, 1737; Lecturer of Lynm Regis, Norfolk; Archdeacon of Carlisle, 1756.



- 1777.—WATTS, George, A.M., Hertford College, Oxford; vicar of Durnford, Wilts; of Uffington, Berks, 1769; chaplain at Dominique, 1772; rector of Catmore, Oxford, 1791.
- 1810.—DRAKE, James, A.M., Prebendary of Brecon and vicar of Warmfield, York.

## PREBENDARIES OF MELIDEN.

## THE TREASURERS OF THE CATHEDRAL.

- 1291.—“*Canonia de KEFNERTH presb'ri in ipsa ecclesia et proventus in Capella de Aldmelyden ad eandem canoniam pertinent.*”
- 1409.—GOWE, Robert, Canon of Windsor, 1402; Chancellor of Lichfield Cathedral, 1409.
- 1415.—TYRELL, William.
- 1465.—CHESHIRE, Roger.
- 1474.—SHARPELS, Peter, seems to have exchanged, for some other preferment, with
- 1476.—CHATTERTON, Edmund, Archdeacon of Chester, and Canon of St. Peter's, Westminster.
- 1500.—FLINT, Gregory, executor to the will of Bishop Davydd ab Owen, 1512.
- 1534.—WELLIFORD, Christopher.
- 1540.—JENNINGS, William, B.D., the first Dean of Gloucester, 1541.
- 1554.—BRICKENDEN, Richard.
- 1557.—VAUGHAN, Hugh, Canon, 1547; sinecure rector of Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain, 1556; Prebendary, 1557; but resigned in 1558, on a pension of £3 : 6 : 8; Canon of Bangor, 1560.
- 1558.—IRELAND, Robert, LL.B., Canon, 1553; vicar of Denbigh, 1554.
- 1598.—THOMAS, Roger, A.M., Canon.
- 1609.—GWYNN, David.
- 1624.—LLOYD, Robert, B.D., vicar of Wrexham, 1598.
- 1628.—KYFFIN, John, S.T.B., vicar choral, 1620; vicar of Oswestry, 1625; rector of Manafon, 1635.
- 1635.—PULESTON, Edward, A.M., rector of Castle Caereinion, and sinecure rector of Hope, 1616; rector of Manafon, 1622.
- 1645.—WRIGHT, Nicholas, D.D., vicar of Theydon, Essex.
- 1649.—GWYNNE, David.
- 1661.—THELWALL, William, A.M., rector of Whitford, 1633.
- 1672.—TURBRIDGE, Richard, A.M., vicar choral, 1664; Canon, 1671; vicar of Dymeirchion, 1672.

- 1674.—EDWARDS, John, LL.D., rector of Knockin and Llanymynech, 1666; Chancellor of the Diocese, 1683.
- 1685.—DAVIES, Samuel, LL.D., Canon, 1667; vicar of Welshpool, 1668; vicar of Guilsfield, 1670.
- 1691.—TENCH, Robert, A.M., rector of Llanwrin, 1676; Canon, 1690.
- 1701.—PRICE, John, A.M., vicar of Wrexham, 1686; Canon, 1693; appointed by the King during the suspension of Bishop Jones, but afterwards deprived as a Non-Juror.
- 1716.—JONES, John, B.D., fellow of Jesus College, Oxford, succeeded the above in both his prebend and his vicarage; sinecure rector of Darowen, 1716; exchanged for that of Hope, 1720.
- 1734.—WYNNE, John, chaplain to Bishop Hare; rector of Cerrigydrudion, 1725; sinecure rector of Corwen, and Canon, 1727; rector of Llanymynech, 1731. He was of Garthmeilio.
- 1746.—BOUCHERY, Gilbert, A.M., son of the Rev. Weyman Bouchery, rector of Little Blakenham, Suffolk; fellow of Clare Hall, Cambridge, 1636; and curate of Northolt under Dr. Lisle, who, on being promoted to this see, made him his chaplain, and presented him to this prebend, the sinecure rectory of Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain, and the rectory of Llanymynech; which last he resigned in 1748, on the translation of Bishop Lisle to Norwich, and his own collation to the vicarage of Swaffham, Norfolk.
- Prebendary Bouchery left by his will, dated 11 Feb. 1783, in trust to the Dean and Chapter of St. Asaph, the sums of £1,000 Three per Cents., for the improvement of the stipend of the curate of Meliden; and £1,400, Three per Cents., the interest to be equally divided between four poor beneficed clergymen of the diocese, nominated by the Bishop.
- 1787.—MILNER, Henry Stephen, LL.B., son of Sir William Milner, Bart., Christ Church, Oxford, 1781; fellow of All Souls, 1785; rector of Dunton, Bucks, 1788; rector of Thriberg and Adwick-le-Street, Yorkshire, 1831.

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## PREBENDARIES OF LLANFAIR.

### FIRST COMPORTION.

- 1291.—DAVYDD AP LLYWARCH. “Canonia D’d ap Lowarch in ipsâ ecclesiâ et p’ventus in capella de Llanweyr ad eand’ canone p’tinent.”
- 1391.—CHICHELEY, Henry, LL.D., *Archbishop of Canterbury*, 1414-31. He was of New College, Oxford; Archdeacon of Salisbury, 1402; Chancellor of that cathedral, 1404; Bishop of St. David’s, 1408; Archbishop of Canterbury, 1414.
- Archbishop Chicheley, besides endowing the collegiate church

and hospital at Higham Ferrers, his native place, founded Bernard and All Souls' Colleges at Oxford; contributed to the finishing of the Divinity School there; and enriched his own cathedral at Canterbury with costly ornaments, repaired and replenished the library, and built a great tower called the Oxford Tower.<sup>1</sup>

1406.—KYFFIN, Howel.

1534.—CRAYFORD, John, D.D., first of Cambridge (Queen's College), then of Oxford; fellow of New, 1519; Proctor at Cambridge, 1522; Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, 1525; D.D. of Cambridge, 1535, and Vice Chancellor; Prebendary and Chancellor of the Cathedral of Salisbury, 1444; Archdeacon of Berks, 1545; Prebendary of Chermister and Bere, in Salisbury Cathedral; Prebendary of Winchester, and Master of University College, Oxford, 1546.

1547.—CLAPHAM, Thomas.

1559.—CLAPHAM, David. "Adhuc puer, de eruditione et habitatione nobis non constat." (Bishop Davies' Return; Br. Willis, 138.)

1566.—ROSE, Adam.

1586.—WILLIAMS, Arthur, rector of Llanllwchaiarn.

1621.—BERKELEY, John, S. T. P., rector of Newtown, 1613; rector of Llanfyllin, 1614.

1623.—MOSTYN, Simon, S. T. B., vicar of Ysceifiog, 1614; Canon, 1617; vicar of Rhuddlan, 1618; vicar of Cwm, 1623.

1624.—KYNASTON, Ralph, vicar of Kinnerley, 1629.

1630.—SALADYNE, John, A.M.

1660.—LLOYD, John, M.A., brother of Humphrey Lloyd, Bishop of Bangor. He was rector of Marchwail, 1641; and after the Restoration appointed to this prebend; made Warden of Ruthin, 1663, and Archdeacon of Merioneth; sinecure rector of the first portion of Llansannan, 1666.

1668.—GODWIN, Nathaniel, A.M., rector of Cransford, Suffolk.

1682.—PRICE, John, S.T.P., fellow of New College, Oxford; rector of Hawarden, 1670. He was of the Rhiwlas family. (Monument in Hawarden Church).

1684.—PRICE, Henry, A.M., Head Master of Ruthin School. He was deprived for refusing to take the oaths of allegiance to William and Mary.

1690.—MARSH, Narcissus, D.D., *Bishop of Ferns and Leighlin; Archbishop of Armagh*, 1702. Born at Hannington, Wilts, he entered

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<sup>1</sup> I insert this from Browne Willis; but I have little doubt that he was mistaken in supposing Llanfarchell ("Pastor fuit ecclesiæ de Llanfarchell") to have been Llanfair-tal-haiarn. It should be Denbigh.

at Magdalen Hall, Oxford ; became fellow of Exeter, 1673; chaplain to Bishop Ward of Salisbury, and afterwards to Lord Clarendon ; Principal of St. Alban Hall, 1673; Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, 1682; Bishop of Ferns and Leighlin, and vicar of Gresford, 1690; resigned his vicarage the same year, on being promoted to the archbishopric of Cashel; from which he was translated to Dublin in 1694; and thence again, in 1702, to Armagh. Whilst Archbishop of Dublin he built and endowed a noble library near the Palace of St. Sepulchre. At Drogheda he endowed with £20 a year an almshouse for the widows of decayed clergymen. Within his own diocese he restored many churches at his own expense, and bought several impropriations, which he restored to the Church. He gave to the Bodleian Library many oriental MSS., and was the author of "Manuductio ad Logicam," "Institutiones Logicæ," an "Essay on the Doctrine of Sounds," and a Charge to his clergy.

1691.—THOMAS, John, A.M., rector of Penegoes, 1689. He wrote an able "Answer to J. O.'s<sup>1</sup> 'Argument for Ordination by Presbyters without Bishops.'" This "Answer" was highly approved by Bishop Lloyd of St. Asaph and Bishop Humphreys of Bangor, and was posthumously published, under the editorship of the Rev. Dr. George Hickes, in 1711.

1696.—JONES, John, D.D., of Trinity College, Cambridge; Dean of Bangor, and rector of Llanllechid.

1727.—WYNNE, Thomas, A.M.

1741.—JONES, Hugh, A.M., chaplain to Bishop Maddox; rector of Llanferras, 1725; Canon, 1739; vicar of Gresford, 1743.

1764.—NEWCOME, Peter, LL.B., Queen's College, Cambridge; rector of Shenley, Herts; and nephew of Bishop Newcome, who collated him, in 1755, to a prebendal stall in Llandaff; and in 1766 to this one, which, however, on being collated to the sinecure rectory of Darowen, he resigned, in 1766, in favour of his younger brother. Mr. Newcome was the author of the "History of St. Alban's Abbey," and the last lecturer at St. Paul's on Lady Moyer's foundation.

1766.—NEWCOME, Henry, A.M., fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge; Junior Proctor, 1760; rector of Castle Caereinion, 1761; and vicar of Gresford, 1764. He was chaplain to his uncle.

1803.—ROBSON, George, M.A., vicar of Chirk, 1804; and rector of Erbistock, 1805. (*Johnes' Essay*, p. 198.)

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. James Owen of Oswestry.



## PREBENDARIES OF LLANFAIR.

## SECOND COMPORTION.

- 1291.—ITHEL VYCHAN. “Canonia Ithael Vachan in ipsa ecclesia et proventus in capella de Llanveyr Dalhaeyn ad eand’ canon’ p’tinent.”
- 1514 (?)—PYDLESTON or PULESTONE, Robert.
- 1517.—PYDLESTON or PULESTON, Hugh, vicar of Wrexham, 1520-66; sinecure rector of Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, 1533-66; Cwm, 1547-60; and Hope, 1557.
- 1575.—POWEL, David, D.D., *the learned Welsh scholar and historian*. Born in Denbighshire, and graduated, in 1572, at Jesus College, Oxford (newly founded), he became vicar of Rhuabon and Prebendary of Meifod in 1570; rector of Llanfyllin, 1571-78; vicar of Meifod, 1579; sinecure rector of Llansantffraid-yn-Mechain, 1588. In 1584, when chaplain to Sir Henry Sidney, Lord President of the Marches of Wales, he completed and edited Humphrey Llwyd’s unfinished translation of “Caradawg of Llangarvan’s History of Wales.” In 1585 he published his “Annotationes in Itinerarium Cambriæ, scriptum per Sil. Giraldum Cambrensem”; “Annotationes in Cambriæ Descriptionem per Sil. Giraldum,” and “De Britannica Historia recte intelligenda Epistola,” all in one volume 8vo; reprinted by Camden, 1603, and re-edited by Sir Richard Hoare, Bart., 1806. In the same year (1585) he also published “Historia Britannica,” or the British history written by Ponticus Virunius; which is an epitome of Geoffrey of Monmouth, and was reprinted in “Rerum Britannicarum Scriptores Vetustiores,” Lugduni, 1587. Dr. Powel was one of those who rendered great assistance to Dr. William Morgan in his translation of the Bible into Welsh, 1588; and he was, at the time of his death, engaged in compiling a Welsh dictionary.
- 1599.—PRICE, FFOULK, D.D., rector of Cerrigydrudion, 1597; vicar of Gresford, 1609; rector of Llandrinio, 1613; sinecure rector of Cwm, 1616.
- 1632.—PRICE, Elis, A.M., vicar of Rhuddlan, 1633.
- 1674.—EDWARDS, John, vicar of Cwm, 1633.
- 1677.—MAURICE, David, D.D., Prebendary of Faenol, 1691.
- 1691.—WYNNE, Robert, S. T. B., Chancellor of the Diocese, 1690, and of the Cathedral, 1693.
- 1693.—LLOYD, Griffith, S. T. B., fellow of Jesus College, Oxford; vicar of Llansantffraid-yn-Mechain, 1682-92; sinecure rector, 1694; and Prebendary of Llandaff.
- 1696.—PARRY, Henry, rector of Llandderfel, 1675.

- 1705.—FFOULKES, Humphrey, D.D., rector of St. George, 1702; rector of Marchwiall, 1709; sinecure rector of Llanfor, 1713. "I have writ some 'Dissertations on the Religion, Literature, Polity, and Laws of the Middle Ages in Wales'" (writes Dr. Ffoulkes to Bishop Maddox, to whom he proposes to dedicate them). "The first volume containing other Dissertations, inscribed to my tutor, Bishop Wynne, is printing off." (MS. Book B.)
- 1737.—DUBERDIEU, John, A.M., Prebendary of Llannefydd, 1743.
- 1743.—SWYNTON, John, A.M., Wadham College, Oxford, and chaplain of Christ Church.
- 1777.—BAKER, Thomas, A.M., Exeter College, Oxford, and afterwards of Merton; Prebendary of Exeter.
- 1803.—HORSELEY, Heneage, M.A., son of the Bishop; vicar of Gresford, 1802; vicar of Chirk, 1803; and rector of Castle Caereinion, 1804. (Johnes' *Essay*, p. 199.)

## PREBENDARIES OF MEIFOD.

## THE SACRISTANS OF THE CATHEDRAL.

- 1291.—BLEDDYN AP ADDA. "Canonia Bledyn ap Adaf in eadem ecclesia et p'ventus alii omnes ad eandem canoniam spectantes, taxantur £4 : 6 : 8."
- 1360 (?)—WILLIAM DE LANGEBURG, d. 1366.
- 1366.—HENRY DE SPONDON, rector of St. John Zachary's, London.
- 1494 (?)—WEBB, Thomas.
- 1494.—WILLIAMS, William.
- 1534.—OWEN, David, rector of Whittington, 1532; vicar of Oswestry, 1534.
- 1558.—PRICE, John, LL.B., Chancellor of the Diocese, 1559.
- 1570.—POWEL, David, D.D., Prebendary of Llanfair, 1575.
- 1575.—ROBERTS, John, A.M.
- 1596.—VAUGHAN, William, Prebendary of Llannefydd, 1598.
- 1598.—WILLIAMS, Peter, rector of Llanerfyl, 1587; vicar of Ysceiviog, 1590; Canon, 1595; rector of Manafon, 1596; rector of Marchwiall, 1598; sinecure rector of Llansannan, 1599; vicar of Rhwabon, 1600.
- 1614.—KYFFIN, Edward, vicar of Whitford, 1601.
- 1617.—MORGAN, Evan, B.D., vicar of Llanasa, 1602; vicar of Mold, 1612; sinecure rector of Caerwys, and Comportioner of Llansannan, 1614; rector of Denbigh, 1615.
- 1621.—EVANS, Richard, vicar of Llanrwst, 1618; vicar of Tremeirchion, 1619; vicar of Welshpool, 1622; rector of Halkin, 1626;

Llanasa, 1633. Deprived by the Puritan approvers. (*Antea*, p. 104.)

1666.—MAURICE, David, A.M., Prebendary of Faenol, 1691.

1677.—CLOPTON, Thomas, A.M., nephew of Bishop Barrow; Master of Oswestry School, 1672; sinecure rector of Cilken, 1673; Canon, 1675; sinecure rector of Llanrwst, 1677, and Prebendary; but resigned this on being made rector of Castle Caereinion, 1678.

1678.—PUGH, Thomas, vicar of Berriew, 1664.

1678.—CLOPTON, Thomas, A.M., a second time; but resigned both it and Castle in 1688, in exchange for the rectory of Christleton (*vide* p. 190) with

1688.—MOSTYN, John, rector of Llanycil, 1686; rector of Castle Caereinion, 1688; rector of Llangynyw, and sinecure rector of Whitford, 1690.

1730.—LLOYD, Hugh, A.M., vicar of Llanasa, 1716; vicar of Mold, 1717; rector of Llangynhafal, 1729.

1749.—MORGAN, John, B.D., chaplain to Bishop Drummond, priest of the Chapel Royal, sinecure rector of Corwen, 1750.

1773.—WORTHINGTON, William, D.D., Jesus College, Oxford. Born in Merionethshire, and educated at Oswestry School, he was appointed vicar of Llanyblodwel, 1729; sinecure rector of Darowen, 1737-51; vicar of Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, 1745; sinecure rector of Hope, 1751-74; and of Llanfor, 1774. He was chaplain to Bishop Drummond, who, on his translation to York, made him a Prebendary of that Cathedral also.

Dr. Worthington was a learned, a voluminous writer, and the author of "An Essay on Redemption;" "The Scripture Theory of the Earth," a sequel to the former; "Historical Sense of the Mosaic Account of the Fall vindicated;" "Instructions concerning Confirmation;" "A Disquisition concerning the Lord's Supper;" "The Evidences of Christianity, being the Boyle Lectures for 1766, 7, 8," in 2 vols.; some special Sermons; an "Eirenicon;" and "An Enquiry into the Case of the Gospel Demoniacs;" with an Essay on Scripture Demonology.

1779.—BROWN, William, rector of Newtown, 1775; vicar of Berriew, 1793; vicar of Guilsfield and Meifod, 1794.

1819.—LUXMOORE, Charles Scott, M.A., son of the Bishop; Dean and Chancellor of the Diocese, 1826.

1826.—LUXMOORE, John Henry Montague, M.A., St. John's College, Cambridge, brother of the above; sinecure rector of Whitford and perpetual curate of Moreton, 1823; rector of Marchwiall, 1824; sinecure rector of Llanarmon-yn-Iâl, 1826. (*Johnes' Essay*, 1832, p. 217.) He wrote "Instruction in the Catechism of the Church," 16mo.; and a duoglot "Instruction in the Fastes and Festivals of the Church," 16mo., the Welsh by the Rev. Evan Evans, vicar of Llanarmon-yn-Iâl.

## CANONS CURSAL.

## CANONIA PRIMA.

DAVID AP HOWEL.

- 1535.—DAVID AP HOWEL, vicar of Llanbrynmair; vicar of Gresford, 1537.
- 1546.—WHITE, William.
- 1547.—CUTHBERT, I.
- 1549.—LEWIS, Jeffrey.
- 1558.—DAVIES, Richard, had been deprived, in 1553, of “canonia tertia” for being married.
- 1564.—JONES, David.
- 1566.—KYFFIN, Jeffrey, LL.B., vicar of Llanrwst and rector of Llandrinio, 1551.
- 1585.—BANKS, Thomas, A.M., Dean, 1587.
- 1587.—LLOYD, William, A.M., sinecure rector of Llanrhaiadr-yn-Moch-nant, 1590.
- 1601.—NICHOLAS, David, presented by Lord Keeper Egerton, *sede vacante*.
- 1612.—DAVIES, John, D.D., Prebendary of Llanefydd, 1617.
- 1617.—LLOYD, Richard, D.D., Lincoln College, Oxford; vicar of Abergele, 1611; comptroller of Llansannan and vicar of Gresford, 1613; rector of Marchwiall, 1614; vicar of Rhuabon, 1617; rector of Ysceifiog, 1621.
- 1660.—POWEL, Robert, D.D., fellow of All Souls, by the Parliamentary Visitors, 1648; became afterwards Archdeacon of Salop, rector of Whittington, Chancellor of the Diocese, and one of the King’s chaplains.
- 1681.—JONES, John, B.D., vicar of St. Martin’s, 1665; vicar of Llan-silin, 1667; rector of Selattyn, 1682.
- 1710.—DAVIES, Richard, A.M., Peter House, Cambridge. He was of the family of Gwysaney and Llanerch; vicar of Rhuabon and rector of Erbistock, 1706; Precentor and Canon of St. David’s, and sinecure rector of Cilcain, where he rebuilt, in 1746, the north aisle of the church, which had been burnt down on Christmas Day 1532. At Rhuabon also he built some almshouses in 1740, and endowed them with £30 a year; besides leaving £200 to the parish; to which must be added £100 to Peter House, Cambridge, for the purchase of advowsons; £40 to the Diocesan



Widows and Orphans' Fund; and £20 to complete the Library at St. David's.

Browne Willis, in the dedication of his *Survey of Bangor*, acknowledges his obligations to Mr. Davies "for diverse very valuable transcripts relating to the Welsh sees, particularly for a considerable part of his 'Review of St. Asaph,' inserted in his *Survey of Bangor*," pp. 339-71.

- 1748.—LLOYD, David, rector of Llanddoget, 1720-35; rector of Gwytheryn, 1738-53; rector of Llanycil, and vicar of Llanyblodwel, 1753-60; rector of Cerrigydrudion, 1760.
- 1763.—JONES, John, A.M., rector of Llansantffraid Glan Conway, 1743; rector of Llanrwst, 1756.
- 1779.—LEWIS, Ambrose Thelwall, A.M., rector of Llandegla, 1751; rector of Gwytherin, 1753; rector of Cerrigydrudion, 1778.
- 1784.—CHAMBRES-JONES, Edward, M.A., vicar of Llannefydd, 1772; vicar choral, 1777; vicar of Llansannan, 1782.
- 1817.—HEBER, Reginald, M.A., *Bishop of Calcutta*, 1823. Bishop Heber was born at Malpas Rectory, 1783; educated at Whitchurch and at Neasdon; entered at Brasenose College, Oxford, 1800; obtained the Prize Poems for Latin verse, "*Carmen Seculare*," 1801; English verse, "*Palestine*," 1803; and the English essay, "*The Sense of Honour*," 1805; fellow of All Souls; Bampton Lecturer, 1815; Canon of St. Asaph, and rector of Hodnet, 1817; University Preacher, 1819; Preacher of Lincoln's Inn, 1822; Bishop of Calcutta, 1823-6. He was the author of many Sermons preached in England and in India; Hymns for public worship (his well known missionary hymn, "*From Greenland's icy Mountains*," was composed for a service in Wrexham Church); "*The Divinity, Personality, and Office of the Holy Spirit*," being the Bampton Lecture, 1815; and a "*Life of Bishop Jeremy Taylor*," prefixed to a new and complete edition of his works.
- 1823.—LUXMOORE, John Henry Montague, M.A., Prebendary of Meifod, 1826.
- 1827.—WILLIAMS, William, M.A., vicar choral, 1794; rector of Caerwys, 1816; rector of Ysceiviog, 1826-36.

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## CANONIA SECUNDA.

ARTURI BULKELEY.

- 1525.—BULKELEY, Arthur, LL.D., *Bishop of Bangor*, 1541. Born in Anglesea, and educated at Oxford, he became rector of Llanddensant, in his native county, 1525; rector of St. James Garlickhithe, London, 1531; Bishop of Bangor, 1541.

- 1557.—MAURICE AP THOMAS, sinecure rector of Llansannan, 1557.
- 1558.—VAUGHAN, Hugh, sinecure rector of Llansantffraid yn Mechain; Prebendary of Meliden, 1557.
- 1560.—WYNNE, Rice, *alias* Rice ap Thomas, rector of Eglwysfach, 1558.
- 1602.—PRYS, Edmund, M.A., *author of the Welsh Metrical Version of the Psalms*. Born at Gerddibluog, in Llandecwyn, he graduated at St. John's College, Cambridge; was made rector of Festiniog, 1572; Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1576; rector of Llanddwywe, 1580. Besides his version of the Psalms, Archdeacon Prys assisted Dr. Morgan in his translation of the Bible into Welsh; and to him Dr. John Davies of Mallwyd dedicated his Welsh Grammar.
- 1624.—DOLBEN, David, M.A., Prebendary of Faenol, 1626; *Bishop of Bangor*, 1631
- 1626.—MORRIS, Evan.
- 1637.—SPARK, Archibald, B.D., Prebendary of Llannefydd, 1662.
- 1662.—LLOYD, Humphrey, A.M.; *Dean*, 1673; Bishop of Bangor, 1675.
- 1663.—WYNNE, Edward, D.D., Chancellor of Bangor. He graduated at Cambridge; was made rector of Llanymawddwy, 1644; and after the Restoration, rector of Llanarmon, near Pwllheli, and Llangeinwen in Anglesea; rector of Llanllechid, 1662; Canon of St. Asaph and Chancellor of Bangor, 1663; rector of Llaneugrad, 1668. He was nephew to Bishop Owen, grandson to Bishop R. Morgan of Bangor, and had been curate to Dr. Davies of Mallwyd. He founded a school at Holyhead, besides other acts of charity, and was the author of "Trefn Ymarweddiad y Gwir Gristion," first ed. 1662; second, 1723-4.
- 1670.—ROBERTS, Philip, vicar of Darowen, 1664; rector of Bodvari, 1668.
- 1675.—EDWARDS, Robert, vicar of Corwen, 1653; vicar of Whitford, 1661.
- 1727.—WYNNE, John, Prebendary of Meliden, 1734.
- 1731.—POWEL, Peter, A.M., rector of Llanyceil, 1725; vicar of Llanrhaiadr yn Mochnant, 1735.
- 1747.—PRICE, Thomas, vicar of Cilcain, 1739; rector of Caerwys, 1740; vicar choral, and rector of St. George, 1750; rector of Cerrigydrudion, 1757.
- 1760.—LEWIS, Robert, A.M., vicar of Pennant, and rector of Llangynog, 1744; rector of Nannerch, 1746; vicar of Corwen, 1747; vicar of Mold, 1749.
- 1792.—WILLIAMS, Hugh, M.A., chaplain to Bishop Bagot; rector of Llangynyw, 1790; vicar of Corwen, 1792; exchanged for rectory of Halkin, 1797. He was also rector of Clocaenog, which he exchanged for Llanclidan, 1796.

1809.—WILLIAMS, Rowland, M.A., chaplain to Bishops Cleaver and Luxmoore. Educated at Ruthin School and Jesus College, Oxford, of which he was a scholar, he became Second Master of Bangor School; and on Bishop Cleaver's translation to St. Asaph he was made his examining chaplain, and vicar of Cilcain, 1807; rector of Halkin and Canon, 1809; vicar of Meifod, 1819; rector of Ysceifiog, 1836. He contributed many papers to the *Gwylledydd* and *Cambro-Briton*, and was one of the four clergy selected by the Bishops to correct the Welsh Book of Common Prayer in 1840.

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### CANONIA TERTIA.

RICARDI HARRISON.

- 1536.—HARRISON, Richard, D.D., sinecure rector of Whitford, 1540.
- 1540.—DAVIES, Richard, deprived for being married.
- 1553.—IRELAND, Robert, Prebendary of Meliden, 1558.
- 1560.—JONES, Henry, LL.D., All Souls' College, Oxford; sinecure rector of Llansannan, 1561; rector of Llanrwst, 1573. He was consulted by Queen Elizabeth in the case of Leslie, Bishop of Ross, who, having come to her as ambassador from Mary Queen of Scots, fomented a rebellion against her. (B. W., i, 345.)
- 1592.—OWEN, Hugh, vicar choral, 1576.
- 1599.—HOLLAND, John, A.M., vicar of Guilsfield, 1586.
- 1639.—LANGFORD, William, A.M., Hart Hall, Oxford; Head Master of Ruthin School, 1626-8; rector of Heneglwys, 1630; vicar of Welshpool, 1632; rector of Llanerfyl, 1637; sinecure rector of Llanfor, 1644. Deprived, by the Committee of Sequestrators, of all his preferments save Llanfor, which he appears to have retained through the influence of Mr. Ed. Meyrick. Restored to Welshpool, 1660; rector of Castle Caereinion, 1664.
- 1658.—WYNNE, Robert, A.M., rector of Cerrigydrudion, 1666.
- 1702.—JONES, Thomas, son of Bishop Jones, vicar of Bettws yn Rhos, 1702; sinecure rector of Cwm, vicar of Llanfair Caereinion, and vicar of Llanrhaidr yn Mochnant, 1705.
- 1720.—WYNNE, Thomas, vicar of Ysceifiog, 1697; rector of Llanrwst, 1714.
- 1728.—POWELL, William, A.M., Dean, 1731.
- 1731.—WORTHINGTON, William, A.M., Prebendary of Meifod, 1778.
- 1741.—JONES, Robert, vicar of Rhuddlan, 1727.
- 1759.—LLOYD, Robert, A.M. (of Cefn), Prebendary of Hereford, and vicar of Vowchurch in that diocese.

- 1777.—WILLIAMS, Edward, A.M., chaplain to Bishop Shipley; vicar choral, 1759; vicar of Nantglyn, 1765; vicar of Llansantffraid-yn-Mechain, 1770; vicar of Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, 1779; rector of Mallwyd, 1783.
- 1792.—HOLLAND-EDWARDS, Howell, M.A., chaplain to Bishop Bagot; rector of Llanrwst, 1799, which he resigned in 1830, on being appointed Prebendary of Westminster. He was the founder of St. Mary's Church, Llanrwst.

## CANONIA IV.

JOHANNIS GRIFFITH.

- 1536.—GRIFFITH, John, sinecure rector of Llanbrynmair.
- 1548.—GETHIN, Jeffrey. "Galfridus Gethin, Artium Magister, Canonicus; rector de Llanbrynmair (Ludimagister de Denbighe.)" Ret. 1560.
- 1580.—BARTON, Godfrey, made Canon before he was twelve years of age; but deprived, as a layman, both of it and his sinecure of Llansannan by T. Davies, 1566.
- 1581.—VAUGHAN, William, D.D., Prebendary of Llannefydd, 1598.
- 1595.—WILLIAMS, Peter, Prebendary of Meifod, 1598.
- 1598.—Griffith, William, A.M., rector of Cemmaes, 1587; sinecure rector of Darowen, 1591.
- 1662.—FFOULKES, William, M.A., sinecure rector of Cwm, 1660-1; exchanged for Llanbrynmair and rectory of Llanfyllin, 1661.
- 1679.—WILLIAMS, William, rector of Llansannan, 1663; St. George, 1668; vicar of Northop, 1672; rector of Llanddulas, 1674; rector of Bodvari and vicar of Abergele, 1675; vicar of Rhuddlan, 1678.
- 1681.—EVANS, John, rector of Newtown, 1666; Head Master of Oswestry School, 1678; rector of Berriew, 1686.
- 1681.—ADAMS, Thomas, A.M., rector of Whittington; author of Sermons before the University of Oxford, edited by Dr. Sacheverell.
- 1718.—WYNNE, Meredith, vicar of Llannefydd, 1705; comptroller of Llansannan.
- 1728.—PATRICK, Robert, Master of Oswestry School; rector of Cemmaes, 1717; rector of Mallwyd, 1733.
- 1739.—JONES, Hugh, Prebendary of Llanfair, 1741.
- 1741.—WORTHINGTON, William, B.A., Prebendary of Meifod, 1773.
- 1773.—HUMPHREYS, Humphrey, A.M., Prebendary of Salisbury and rector of Cerrigydrudion, 1763.



- 1783.—STODART, William, vicar of Bettws-yn-Rhos, 1758; vicar choral, 1769; vicar of Abergele, 1777.
- 1794.—CLOUGH, Thomas, rector of Halkin and vicar of Llangernyw, 1783; rector of Denbigh, 1797; rector of Hirnant, 1799; vicar of Nantglyn, 1807.
- 1815.—CLEAVER, John Francis, M.A., son of Bishop Cleaver, Christ Church, Oxford; first class; second, Mathematics, 1808; sinecure rector of Corwen, 1812; rector of Newtown, 1814; exchanged for the vicarage of Great Coxwell, Berks, 1815.

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### CANONIA V.

ADAM BEKENSALL.

- 1536.—BEKENSALL, Adam.
- 1540.—WARHAM, John.
- 1556.—BOSTOCK, Lancelot; deprived the same year.
- 1560.—HUGHES, Robert, Proctor for the Chapter in the Convocation of 1562 (p. 87); rector of Llanyeil, 1561.
- 1583.—VAUGHAN, J.
- 1611.—LLOYD, Richard, Canonica Prima, 1617.
- 1630.—PARRY, William.
- 1631.—GRIFFITH, George, D.D., *Bishop of St. Asaph*, 1661.
- 1660.—ROGERS, William, B.D., sinecure rector of Cwm.
- 1664.—MAURICE, David, A.M., Prebendary of Faenol, 1691.
- 1666.—VAUGHAN, Thomas, A.M.
- 1675.—CLOPTON, Thomas, A.M., Prebendary of Meifod, 1677.
- 1677.—DAVIES, Samuel, LL.D., Prebendary of Meliden, 1685.
- 1685.—EYTON, Owen, A.M. (of Plas isa Corwen), sinecure rector and vicar of Corwen, 1665; sinecure rector of Llanarmon-yn-Iâl, 1687; treasurer of Bangor Cathedral, 1689.
- 1705.—EDWARDS, John, A.M.
- 1711.—KYNASTON, Roger, rector of Llanymawddwy, 1707; rector of Llanfyllin, 1711; rector of Llanfechain, 1718.
- 1735.—WYNNE, William, D.D, fellow of All Souls', Oxford; chaplain to Bishop Tanner; vicar of Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, 1733; rector of Llanfechain, 1735.
- 1760.—PRICE, John, D.D., fellow of Jesus College, Oxford, Prebendary of Ely, and vicar of Evesham, 1741; rector of Denbigh, 1749; sinecure rector of Llangwm, 1751.
- 1772.—EVANS, David, vicar choral, 1734; rector of Llanerfyl, 1737; rector of Llanymynech, 1776.

- 1787.—JONES, John, A.M., rector of Knockin, 1761; vicar of Llan-santffraid yn Meechain, 1783.
- 1798.—STRONG, Samuel, rector of Newtown, 1772; rector of March-wiail, 1775.
- 1816.—LUXMOORE, Charles Scott, M.A., Prebendary of Meifod, 1819; Dean and Chancellor, 1826.
- 1819.—WINGFIELD, Rowland, M.A., vicar of Llanllwchaiarn, 1799-1801; vicar of Rhuabon, 1801-42.

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### CANONIA VI.

RADULPHI DE BRIKEHEVED *vel* BIRKENHEAD.

- 1535.—BRIKEHEVED *vel* BIRKENHEAD, Ralph.
- 1554.—TWISTLETON *vel* TWYSTON, Thomas.
- 1570.—VAUGHAN, William.
- 1592.—MORRIS, Ellis, rector of Llanyeil, 1583.
- 1598.—THOMAS, Roger, A.M., Prebendary of Meliden, 1598.
- 1623.—ELLIS, David, vicar of Caerwys, 1606; vicar of Northop with Flint, 1608.
- 1624.—HOLLAND, John, rector of Llansantffraid Glan Conway, 1613; vicar of Llansannan, 1614; rector of St. George, 1617.
- 1660.—BRIGDALE, William, M.A., vicar of Llanrwst before the Commonwealth, and after the Restoration; Precentor of Bangor, and rector of Llanbedr y Cenin cum Caerhun.
- 1690.—TENCH, Robert, A.M., Prebendary of Meliden, 1691.
- 1693.—PRICE, John, M.A., Prebend of Meliden, 1701.
- 1722.—PARRY, Edward, A.M., vicar of Oswestry, 1713.
- 1737.—HUMPHREYS, J.
- 1740.—JONES, R.
- 1760.—WYNNE, Wm., D.D. (from Canon V), rector of Llanvechain, 1735.
- 1776.—DAVIES, Edward, rector of Manafon, 1760.
- 1793.—CLOUGH, Roger Butler, M.A., vicar of Thakeham, Sussex; exchanged for Gwyddelwern, 1791; vicar of Corwen, 1797.
- 1833.—PARRY, Henry, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; vicar of Llanasa, 1798. Edited Dr. John Davies' Latin-Welsh Grammar, 2nd ed. Oxford, 1809. (*Suprà*, p. 249.)

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### CANONIA VII.

GALFRIDI RUTHIN.

- 1535.—RUTHIN, Jeffrey.
- 1552.—J. AB HOWEL or POWEL, vicar of Llanrwst; vicar of Llanger-nyw, 1551.
- 1575.—SMITH, George, LL.B., Chancellor of the Diocese, 1595.

- 1608.—KYFFIN, Thomas, vicar of Welshpool, 1600; vicar of Berriew, 1608.
- 1614.—GRIFFITH, Ithel, rector of Caerwys, 1596.
- 1616.—MORGAN, Evan, B.D., Prebendary of Meifod, 1617.
- 1617.—MOSTYN, Simon, A.M., Prebendary of Llanfair I, 1623.
- 1622.—SALISBURY, Reginald, A.M.
- 1633.—GRIFFITH, J.
- 1660.—ELLIS, Edward, B.D.
- 1670.—LLOYD, David, A.M., Prebendary of Faenol, 1671.
- 1671.—TURBRIDGE, Richard, A.M., Prebendary of Meliden, 1672.
- 1672.—WILDING, Thomas, rector of Selattyn, 1666.
- 1678.—WYNNE, Peter, A.M.
- 1683.—VAUGHAN, Edmund.
- 1697.—THELWALL, Orlando, rector of Aberhafesp, 1690; vicar of Guilsfield, 1694.
- 1702.—JONES, Maurice.
- 1706.—HUMPHREYS, Thomas.
- 1718.—RICHARDS, Thomas, rector of Llanfyllin, 1718. Published a Sermon for Christmas Day, and some Latin hexameters on the death of Queen Caroline, dedicated to Bishop Maddox.
- 1727.—WYNNE, John, M.A., Prebendary of Meliden, 1734.
- 1731.—POWELL, William, M.A., Dean.
- 1746.—PARRY, Randolph, vicar of St. Martin's, 1745-7; vicar of Corwen, 1747; but exchanged for Llanyblodwel, 1747-53; rector of Llandyssil, 1753; vicar of Guilsfield, 1755.
- 1769.—HAYARD, Benjamin, B.D., fellow of Jesus College, Oxford; vicar of Holywell, 1763.
- 1773.—MOSTYN, Thomas (of Mostyn), A.M., student of Christ Church, Oxford; rector of Llanycil, 1780; rector of Christleton and Prebendary of Chester.
- 1776.—WARRINGTON, George (of Pentrepant), vicar of Hope, 1778; rector of Plealey, in the diocese of Lichfield, 1793.
- 1830.—ROBERTS, Thomas Griffith, M.A., of Brasenose College, Oxford; first class in Litt. Hum., 1815. He was the son of Thos. Roberts, M.A., Head Master of Ruthin School, 1789-96, where he was himself educated, and became rector of Llanrwst, 1830, and Examining Chaplain to Bishop Carey.
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## RESIDENTIARY CANONS.

- 1854.—CLIVE, Wm., M.A., Archdeacon of Montgomery, resigned 1861.
- 1854.—WICKHAM, Robert, M.A., Archdeacon of St. Asaph.
- 1860.—JONES, Hugh, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; third class, Litt. Hum., 1836; fellow, 1839; vicar of Holywell, 1844; Rural Dean; Hon. Canon, 1850; Residentiary Canon, 1860; rector of Llanrwst, 1868. Author of "The Christian's Example" (eight Sermons preached in Lent 1848); a Sermon on "The Evil of Consenting to Popery," 1849; a Visitation Sermon, "Our Warfare and our Weapons," 1855; and "A Collection of 400 Psalms and Hymns for Public Worship."
- 1861.—DAVIES, Morgan, M.A., Wadham College, Oxford; third class, Litt. Hum., 1826; rector of Penegoes, 1836; rector of Caerwys, 1849; rector of Llanrwst, 1852; Hon. Canon, 1854; Rural Dean; Residentiary Canon, 1861; Examining Chaplain to Bishop Short.
- 1861.—FFOULKES, Henry Powell, M.A., Archdeacon of Montgomery.
- 1868.—WYNNE-EDWARDS, Robert, M.A., Brasenose College, Oxford; third class, Litt. Hum., 1846; perpetual curate of Gwersyllt, 1852; rector of Llanfihangel yn Ghwnfa, 1858; vicar of Meifod, 1860; Hon. Canon, 1865; Residentiary Canon, 1868; Examining Chaplain to Bishop Short.

## HONORARY CANONS.

- 1849.—CLOUGH, Charles Butler, M.A., Archdeacon of St. Asaph, 1844; Dean and Chancellor, 1854.
- 1849.—CLIVE, William, M.A., Archdeacon; Residentiary Canon, 1854.
- 1850.—BONNOR, Richard Bonnor Maurice, M.A., Dean, 1859.
- 1850.—JONES, Hugh, M.A., Residentiary Canon, 1860.
- 1854.—MAUDE, Joseph, M.A., Queen's College, Oxford; first class, Math. et Phys., 1826; vicar of Chirk, 1852; Rural Dean; Examining Chaplain to Bishop Short.
- 1854.—DAVIES, Morgan, M.A., Residentiary Canon, 1861.
- 1855.—WYNNE-EYTON, Robert, M.A., Brasenose College, Oxford; B.A., 1810; vicar of Llangollen, 1816; vicar of Northop, 1849; Rural Dean, and Proctor in Convocation for the clergy of the diocese.
- 1855.—CUNLIFFE, George, M.A., Balliol College, Oxford; B.A., 1817; rector of Petton in the diocese of Lichfield, 1822; and vicar of Wrexham, 1826.
- 1855.—GLYNNE, Henry, M.A., Christ Church, Oxford; rector of Hawarden, 1834; Rural Dean, 1851; Proctor for the Chapter in Convocation.



- 1858.—WILLIAMS, David, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; rector of Nan-  
nerch, 1845; Diocesan Organising Secretary for the Society for  
the Propagation of the Gospel, and Proctor in Convocation for the  
clergy of the diocese. Translator into Welsh, for the Society for  
the Promotion of Christian Knowledge, of "The Book of Nature;"  
"Schism;" "Spring Morning," by the Bishop of Oxford; and  
compiler of "Cennadaethau Eglwysig" (Church Missions), for the  
S. P. G.
- 1858.—WILLIAMS, Robert, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; fourth class,  
Lit. Hum., 1839; rector of Llanfyllin, 1850; Rural Dean, 1861.  
Author of a "History of the Parish of Llanfyllin," in "Mont-  
gomeryshire Collections," 1870.
- 1860.—How, William Walsham, M.A., Wadham College, Oxford; third  
class, Litt. Hum., and B.A., 1845; M.A., 1847; ad eund., Dur-  
ham, 1848; rector of Whittington, 1851; Rural Dean, 1853;  
Proctor in Convocation for the clergy of the diocese. Author of  
"Plain Words," 1st Series, 1859, 80,000; 2nd Series, 1861,  
50,000; 3rd Series, 1870, 6,000; "Practical Sermons," 1861,  
9,000; "Lent Sermons on Psalm LI," 1860, 9,000; and many  
single Sermons; "Evening Psalter Pointed for Chanting," 1862;  
"Canticles Pointed with appropriate Chants," 1862; "Prayers  
for Schools," 1862; "Three All Saints' Summers," 1861; "Pastor  
in Parochiâ," 1868, 2nd edit.; and a "Commentary on the Four  
Gospels," for the S. P. C. K., two editions, 1870; second 5,000;  
and, in conjunction with Bishop Morrell, "Psalms and Hymns  
for Public Worship," with a Supplement, 200,000.
- 1860.—MEREDITH, James, B.A., Trinity College, Dublin, 1824; vicar  
of Hope, 1836; vicar of Abergele, 1848; Rural Dean.
- 1865.—WYNNE EDWARDS, Robert, M.A., Residentiary Canon, 1868.

VICARS CHORAL, OR MINOR CANONS,  
OF THE CATHEDRAL,  
AND VICARS OF THE PARISH OF ST. ASAPH.

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1291.—KENEWR AP BLEDDYN           | 1616.—LLOYD, Samuel                    |
| „ MEYFEL                          | 1617.—EVANS, Rowland                   |
| „ CYNWRIG AP ADDA                 | „ BARKER, Thomas                       |
| „ PHILIP                          | 1618.—PRICHARD, William                |
| „ ADDA AP MADOC                   | „ GRIFFITH, W.                         |
| 1512.—GALFRID GREGORY             | 1620.—KYFFIN, John <sup>3</sup>        |
| 1535.—DAVYDD AP IEUAN             | 1623.—EDWARDS, J.                      |
| „ John BARKER                     | 1626.—JONES, Maurice                   |
| „ HUGH AP IEUAN                   | „ EDWARDS, W.                          |
| „ GALFRID AP LLEWELYN             | 1629.—TARRANT, W.                      |
| 1538.—RICHARD AP MEREDITH         | 1632.—SPARK, Archibald <sup>4</sup>    |
| 1540.—REYNOLD, J.                 | 1635.—GRIFFITH, W.                     |
| 1547.—THOMAS, P.                  | 1637.—PIERCE, J.                       |
| 1556.—RHYS AP JOAN                | 1639.—EVANS, Edward                    |
| 1557.—PHENTON, Thomas             | 1640.—ROBERTS, G., deprived            |
| „ LLOYD, J.                       | „ JONES, D., ditto                     |
| „ R. AB IEUAN MEREDITH            | „ MORRIS, Humphrey, <sup>5</sup> ditto |
| „ LLOYD, J.                       | „ BYNNER, W., <sup>6</sup> ditto       |
| 1560.—GALFRID AP ROBERT           | 1662.—ROBERTS, J.                      |
| „ WYNNE, Griffith                 | 1663.—CLARK, W.                        |
| 1566.—DAVIES, William             | 1664.—TURBRIDGE, Richard, <sup>7</sup> |
| „ OLIVER AP THOMAS                | 1665.—FFOULKES, R. <sup>8</sup>        |
| 1570.—LLOYD, Evan                 | 1668.—JONES, Robert                    |
| 1573.—HOLLAND, Thomas             | 1669.—OTTY, Thomas                     |
| 1576.—OWEN, Hugh <sup>1</sup>     | 1671.—BUTTERY, W.                      |
| 1578.—EVANS, Hugh                 | 1672.—GILBERT, J.                      |
| 1581.—CHRISTIAN, J.               | 1678.—ROWLAND, T.                      |
| 1582.—JONES, J.                   | „ RAY, W.                              |
| 1587.—ROBERTS, Hugh               | 1683.—HIGGONS, J.                      |
| 1607.—IRELAND, John               | 1684.—PRICE, W.                        |
| 1610.—PARRY, Gabriel <sup>2</sup> | 1686.—JONES, Morgan                    |
| 1613.—GWYN, Lewis                 | 1687.—DAVIES, Edward                   |
| 1616.—LLOYD, Lewis                | 1692.—SALISBURY, W.                    |

<sup>1</sup> Canon, 1592.

<sup>2</sup> Rector of Llandegla, 1608; vicar of Abergele, 1613; comportioner of Llan-sannan, 1616.

<sup>3</sup> Prebendary of Meliden, 1628.

<sup>6</sup> Restored 1661; vicar of Cemmaes, 1668.

<sup>4</sup> Preb. Llannefydd, 1662.

<sup>7</sup> Prebendary of Meliden, 1672.

<sup>5</sup> Restored 1660; v. of Cwm, 1662.

<sup>8</sup> Vicar of Llandrillo yn Rhos, 1666.

- 1692.—ATKINSON, William  
 1697.—LLOYD, Robert  
       LEWIS, Thomas  
 1702.—BABINGTON, Joseph  
 1704.—FFOULKES, Hugh, B.A.,  
       Trin. Coll., Oxf.<sup>1</sup>  
 1705.—MORRICE, Andrew  
 1707.—EDWARDS, Thomas  
 1709.—EVANS, Thomas  
 1719.—JONES, Thomas  
       BABINGTON, Josiah<sup>2</sup>  
 1734.—EVANS, David<sup>3</sup>  
 1736.—WILLIAMS, Jeffrey<sup>4</sup>  
 1737.—MYDDELTON, Ffoulk  
 1738.—JEFFREYS, Thomas<sup>5</sup>  
 1741.—DAVIES, W.  
 1746.—STODART, Samuel<sup>6</sup>  
 1750.—PRICE, Thomas<sup>7</sup>  
 1756.—JEFFREYS, John  
 1757.—EVANS, David  
 1759.—WILLIAMS, Edward<sup>8</sup>  
 1760.—OWENS, Daniel  
 1763.—WILLIAMS, Evan  
 1769.—STODART, William<sup>9</sup>  
 1775.—WILLIAMS, Peter  
 1776.—WHITLEY, Peter<sup>10</sup>  
 1777.—JONES, Edw. Chambres<sup>11</sup>  
 1778.—KYFFIN, H.  
 1781.—THOMAS, Robert  
 1782.—MAURICE, Robert<sup>12</sup>  
 1794.—WILLIAMS, William<sup>13</sup>  
 1801.—STRONG, George, P. C. Disserth; vicar of Llansannan, 1817.  
 1816.—JONES, John, M.A., v. Rhuddlan, 1819; r. Llandderfel, 1828.  
 1820.—HUGHES, Thomas Lewis, M.A., rector of Penegoes, 1828.  
 1827.—OWEN, WILLIAM HICKS, M.A., Magdalen College, Cambridge;  
       B.A. 1823; Deacon, 1824; Priest, 1825; vicar of Tremeirchion,  
       1829; Rural Dean.  
 1828.—JONES, John, M.A., rector of St. George, 1829.  
       WYNNE-EDWARDS, THOMAS, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; B.A.  
       1818; Deacon, 1819; Priest, 1821; vicar of Rhuddlan, 1827.  
 1836.—WYATT, William Robert, M.A., Brasenose College, Oxford;  
       second class, Lit. Hum., 1822; Perpetual Curate of Disserth, 1836;  
       Perpetual Curate of Moreton, 1860.  
 1854.—LEWIS, Lewis, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; fourth class, Lit.  
       Hum., 1841; fellow; rector of Denbigh, 1855.  
 1855.—BROWN, THOMAS, B.D., St. David's College, Lampeter; Hebrew  
       Scholar, 1840; Deacon, 1841; Priest, 1842.  
 1860.—STURKEY, JOHN, B.D., St. David's College, Lampeter; Burton  
       Scholar, 1841; Assistant Tutor; Deacon, 1845; Priest, 1846.

<sup>1</sup> Vicar of Llandrillo yn Edeirnion, 1709.

<sup>2</sup> Rector of Cwm, 1722. Browne Willis acknowledges his obligations to Mr. Babington for much information and assistance in compiling his *Survey of St. Asaph*.

<sup>3</sup> Canon, 1772.

<sup>4</sup> Rector of Halkin, 1757.

<sup>5</sup> Vicar of Bettws yn Rhôs, 1742.

<sup>6</sup> Rector of Llandderfel, 1763.

<sup>7</sup> Rector of Cerrigyrudion, 1757.

<sup>8</sup> Canon, 1777.

<sup>9</sup> Canon, 1783.

<sup>10</sup> V. of Nantglyn, 1778; V. Cwm, 1788.

<sup>11</sup> Canon, 1784.

<sup>12</sup> Vicar of Rhuddlan, 1800, and rector  
       of Llanbedr, D. C.

<sup>13</sup> Canon, 1827.

AN  
ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
PARISHES OF THE DIOCESE,  
ARRANGED  
IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER,  
ACCORDING TO THEIR DEANERIES,  
VIZ., ST. ASAPH, CAEDEWEN, DENBIGH, DYFFRYN CLWYD, HOLYWELL,  
LLANFYLLIN, LLANGOLLEN, LLANRWST, MOLD, OSWESTRY,  
PENLLYN AND EDEIRNION, POOL AND CAER-  
EINION, AND WREXHAM.





## THE DEANERY OF ST. ASAPH,

CONTAINING THE PARISHES OF ST. ASAPH, BODELWYDDAN AND ST. MARY'S  
CEFN, BODVARI, CAERWYS, CWM, DISSERTH, GWAUNYSGOR, LLANASA,  
MELIDEN, PRESTATYN, NEWMARKET, RHUDDLAN, RHYL AND TREMEIR-  
CHION.

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THIS Deanery is a part of that which was called "ENGLEFIELD" in the "Taxatio of Pope Nicholas," A.D. 1291; and "TEGYNGIL" in the "Valor Eccles. 26 Hen. VIII," A.D. 1535; which was subdivided, by an Order in Council dated 13th Dec. 1844, into those of St. Asaph and Holywell.

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### ST. ASAPH, OR LLANELWY.

THIS parish derives its Welsh name from the river Elwy, on the banks of which the exiled Cyndeyrn founded his missionary *collegium* about A.D. 560; and it appears in *Domesday*, A.D. 1088,—the first *bonâ fide* historical notice of it,—under this form, as "Llanuile," with the vills of "Charcan, Bodugan, and Chilven," the present townships of Cyrchynan, Bodeugan, and Cilowen. As in the case of the diocese and the Cathedral, its designation after the name of St. Asaph may be assigned to about the middle of the twelfth century; since which time both names have coexisted side by side to the present day. This parish is a fair illustration of what has been said, in the opening part of this work, of the character and extent of the earliest parishes of the diocese; for when the wide district, of which the spiritual charge had been entrusted to its *collegium*, was subdivided into smaller cures with their respective *personæ*, it seems to have been defined as nearly co-extensive with, though rather larger than, the present mother parish; for it appears, from an Enquiry held in 1607, that even so late as 1572 the inhabitants of the townships of Meifod, Kinnmel, and Dinorben (now in St. George's parish), were considered to be parishioners of St. Asaph; that those of Meifod were bound, as such, to repair a certain portion of the churchyard wall; and that "the parson of Faenol paid *vis. viiij.* to the parson of Llansansior for ministering and saying service to those of Kinnmel and Dynorben."<sup>1</sup>

The several *portiones*, or special tithes, of which the original endowments consisted, formed in the first instance part of the common fund

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<sup>1</sup> Piers Roberts' Diary.

of the college, and then of the Cathedral Chapter; and later still, when its members had special *prebendæ* assigned to them, of the bishop, dean, precentor, and treasurer; by whom in time *vicarii* were appointed, not only to take the cure of souls in the parish, but also to represent them as vicars choral in the Cathedral; and in augmentation of whose scanty stipend, four-fifths of the tithes of the distant Gwyddelwern were assigned. The *Taxatio* of 1291 notices five priests here “et apud Gwyddelwern”; the stipend of one of them, Kenewr ap Bledyn, being returned as £4:6:8, and that of the rest as £3:6:8 each. A few years later, on Sept. 20th, 1310, Bishop Llewelyn ap Ynyr (de Bromfield), who took so prominent a part in remodelling the Cathedral services, made a new arrangement for the parish, assigning the cure of souls “infra quatuor cruces” to the four vicars, and giving up, it would seem, for that purpose, almost all his own share of the tithes.<sup>1</sup> The singular expression, “infra quatuor cruces,” has nothing material to explain it;<sup>2</sup> but is illustrated by the arrangement that prevailed until the new parish of Bodelyyddan, in 1860, took the senior vicar’s district; and Cefn, in 1865, that of the second vicar; still leaving the rest of the cure to the remaining two.<sup>3</sup> The portion of tithes divisible among the vicars in 1535 (*Valor Eccles.* 26 Hen. VIII) was returned at £11:18:0;<sup>4</sup> hemp and flax being at that time cultivated, and forming part of the titheable produce. The recent Comutation Returns give the following result:

<sup>1</sup> “Concessio decimarum et proventum (quatuor partium) parochie de Llanelwy quattuor vicariis choralibus pro inserviendâ curâ infra quattuor cruces, exceptis et episcopo reservatis decimis frumenti et oblacionibus quattuor temporum.” (*Llyfr Côch*, 48a, 97b.)

<sup>2</sup> Pennant states, in his *Tours in Wales* (iii, 164), that “at Vaenol, Brinpolin, and Wyg Fair, had been chapels of ease to St. Asaph; and three out of the four vicars did duty at them in turn”; and Browne Willis, still earlier, writes of Capel Ffynnon Fair as “formerly served by the vicars of St. Asaph, for ease of the neighbouring inhabitants.” There is also a tradition that there had once been a chapel of ease or oratory in Cae Pren Yw, on the farm of Faenol Bropor; but the crosses (“quattuor cruces”) have long ago disappeared.

<sup>3</sup> This new provision for the spiritual wants of the parish, combined with the recent modification of the Cathedral Chapter, seems to obviate the necessity of continuing the present system of four independent vicars deriving their main stipend from a distant parish,—a system which, under the changed circumstances of the age, is generally felt to be unfair to Gwyddelwern, and prejudicial to St. Asaph itself; and which it would be to the advantage of both to reform, by appointing in this parish, for spiritual purposes, one vicar with a competent stipend (for which the Commissioners already derive sufficient local tithes and rents); adding, for charitable trusts, the new incumbents; and restoring to Gwyddelwern a larger share of its own tithes.

<sup>4</sup> See pp. 199, 200.

			£	s.	d.	
Bodelwyddan*	-	-	371	11	0	to Preb. Faenol.
Faenol*	-	-	397	9	2	ditto.
Pengwern*	-	-	237	1	10	ditto.
Meriadog and Wigfair	-	-	292	0	0	to the Dean.
Cilowen, Bodeugan, & Rhyllon	{		111	0	0	to the Dean.
			111	0	0	to Eccles. Com. for the lapsed Preb. of Llanefydd.
Cyrchynan	-	-	65	0	0	to the Eccles. Com. for ditto.
Talar, Brynpolyn, Gwernglef-	{		32	0	0	to the Bishop.
ryd, and Gwerneigrion			268	0	0	to the vicars choral.

All the above tithes, except those of the four vicars, have subsequently lapsed, on the death of their then holders, to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners,<sup>1</sup> who have since then sold those of Bodelwyddan, Faenol, and Pengwern, to form the endowment of the new parish of Bodelwyddan; and have transferred those of Meriadog and Wigfair, for a like purpose, to St. Mary's, Cefn. The whole thirteen townships, however, with their area of 10,404 acres, of the rateable value, £19,146 : 4 : 7, and a population of 3,592, are still included in the parish for all *civil* purposes; though *ecclesiastically* it is limited to the remaining eight, with an area of 3,444 acres, and a population of 2,359.

The church, like most of those in the Vale of Clwyd, consists of two equal and parallel aisles, separated by clustered pillars, and known respectively as "Eglwys Cyndeyrn" (Kentigern) and "Eglwys Asaph." The general character is Perpendicular; and its most striking feature, the handsome roof of the south aisle, is probably due to the restoration that followed Owen Glyndwr's destructive visit. Its preservation during the troubles of the Commonwealth may, perhaps, have been owing to the circumstance of the Wigfair seat being in that portion of the church, and the owner apparently a sympathiser with the Cromwellian party, who excepted Wickwer "when they plundered St. Asaph and parishe, and made greate spoyles."<sup>2</sup> The north side is occupied by a gallery, in which is the organ presented by the Dean and Chapter in 1834, and rebuilt in 1864. In the south wall of the chancel is a rude double piscina. The windows contain no stained glass; but in 1614 there was an inscription on that of the chancel stating that "opus vitreum et lapideum factum fuit et finitum A.D. 1524." The church is pewed throughout, and has the pulpit, reading, and clerk's desks in three tiers on the south wall, between the door and lancet-window.<sup>3</sup> Piers Roberts, in noticing a christening before morning prayer, or high service, on the 6th March, 1630, records that "Mr. vicar Jones, vicar choral, made y<sup>e</sup> firste sermon in Welshe in the then

\* Each of these three townships also pays £1 : 1 : 0 to the parish clerk.

<sup>1</sup> To whom also has been transferred property in lands (about 274 a. 3 r. 34 p.) and houses, of the rateable value of about £1,200, formerly a part of the episcopal and capitular estates.

<sup>2</sup> Suprà, p. 203.

<sup>3</sup> Its restoration is now being undertaken.



p'ishe church of St. Asaph or Llanelwy, by my Lord Bishop's order and decree."<sup>1</sup> The order of Bishop Owen was renewed by Bishop Griffith in 1664; but how long it continued to be observed, does not appear. At present the Sunday and week-day duties are performed by the four vicars in succession, except the occasional services of weddings and funerals, at which each vicar officiates for his own district.

The principal monuments in the church are those of the families of "Lloyd of Keven," "Lloyd of Wickwer," "Humphreys of Bodlewiddan," "Foulkes of Gwerneigron and Vaynol," and "Foulkes of Meriadog."

A few early floriated crosses may be seen in the church and the churchyard; and in the latter lies the celebrated, self-taught linguist, Richard Robert Jones, best known as "Dic Aberdaron," who died here in 1843. This also is probably the resting-place of "Sion Tudyr," the bard, who lived at Wigfair, and died in 1602.

A new Cemetery and chapel, built on land given by the Bishop, was consecrated in 1848.

The charities are very considerable, the chief donor having been a Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, who in 1729 left in trust to the vicars several lands and tenements in St. Asaph and Tremeirchion, now known as the "Waun Farm," for schooling and educating poor children, and clothing poor people, of this parish. The following table will shew the present investment and annual value of the charities:

	A.	R.	P.	£	s.	d.
Waun Farm - - - -	85	1	14	-	66	10 0
" " - - - -	40	3	15 <sup>2</sup>	-	26	0 0
" " detached - - -	1	3	19	-	1	0 0
" " Talsarn field in Pentreucha	3	2	18	-	4	4 0
" " Allotment on Maen Efah	0	3	26	-	0	10 0
Rent-charge on Pentreucha farm, created in 1774 by Robert Ffoulkes of Gwerneigron, the then owner, to be paid to the schoolmaster - - - -	-	-	-	-	5	0 0
Interest of £180 ( <i>i. e.</i> £200 <i>minus</i> legacy duty) left in 1828 by Mr. John Hutchinson to the Grammar School - - -	-	-	-	-	8	15 6
Ditto of £485:8:7, left by Bishop Barrow, in 1680, New 2½ per Cents. (boys' school, £6:12:8; almswomen, £5:10:0) -	-	-	-	-	12	2 8
Ditto of £521:12:6 Consol. Fund, 3 per Cent. Annuities, proceeds of sale of 3 a. 2 r. 24 p. in Pengwern T. to Sir H. Williams in 1866 - - -	-	-	-	-	15	12 0
Ditto of £100 Consolidated Charities <sup>3</sup> in the Savings' Bank	-	-	-	-	3	0 6

<sup>1</sup> Suprà, pp. 201, 202.

<sup>2</sup> Though reckoned as part of the Waun Farm, this is supposed to be the charity left by Thomas Pierce to clothe the poor.

<sup>3</sup> *E. g.*, 1681, Mary, *veh.* Robt. Griffith, £10; 1696, Wm. Roberts, £10; 1720, Margaret Lloyd, £20; 1724, Alice Morris, £10; 1726, Ellen Lloyd, £20; 1732, Rev. Wm. Lloyd, £100; 1735, Bishop Tanner, £10; 1736, Rev. Richd. Lloyd, £10; 1750, Susannah Lloyd, £20; 1776, Rev. Robt. Lloyd, £60; Thos. Price, Penycefn, £20. See Gilbert's Returns, 1786; Charity Reports, 1837; and the list on the gallery in the church.

Interest of £100, ditto, on St. Asaph and Conway roads*	-	£4	0	0
Ditto, £60 ditto, Consol. 3 per Cent. vested in official trustees*				
Rent of 11a. 0r. 27p. in Pentre farm, <sup>1</sup> now paid to the Alms-				
houses - - - - -	-	25	0	0

£100 were left by the Rev. Dr. Marsden, Prebendary of Faenol, 1795, for the poor of Faenol, Bodelwyddan, and Pengwern; and about £500 have been invested by Bishop Short, 1870, in the new Water-Works, whereby at present fifty-two poor families receive a gratuitous water-supply. A share in an educational endowment by the Rev. Dr. George Smith, Chancellor of the Diocese, 1595, and founder of Northop School, has been for some time in abeyance, owing to its conditions.

The Almshouses were founded by Bishop Barrow in 1680, received a bequest of £140 from Bishop Tanner in 1735, a further endowment in 1745, and were rebuilt by Bishop Bagot in 1795. The widows, eight in number, are appointed by the Bishop, the Dean, and the families of Cefn and Llannerch.

The Grammar School appears to have been always intimately connected with the Cathedral, and probably represents the Diocesan Grammar School to the "power scolers," of which certain fines were assigned in the injunctions of Bishop Goldwell,<sup>2</sup> A.D. 1556. Bishop Hughes, in his will, 16 Oct. 1597, made a conditional bequest of lands and moneys in its favour; but the condition was not complied with, and the bequest was lost. Bishop Barrow, in 1680, bequeathed £200 towards it, and intended, had he lived, to have built a School-house. It was probably held at first in some part of the Cathedral; but in 1638 "a Schoolhouse roome or lofft was made and finished in the lower ende of the p'ishe church, by Edward ap Ieün, Dafydd and others."<sup>3</sup> At a later period it was held in the Chapter House, and later still in the Cathedral Close, until the present Schoolroom was built in 1780. About the year 1818 it was merged in a National School; but, the arrangement being unsatisfactory, it was subsequently discontinued, and is no longer exclusively a Grammar School, but rather a good Commercial School, in which twenty-four boys from the parish are educated free, in consideration of the £35 per ann. added by the Vicars to the special endowments. The school building consists of one large room and a class-room; but there is no accommodation for the Master or for boarders. The appointment of the Master lies with the Vicars, and the office is at present held by W. Easterby, Esq., LL.D., London. The Commission of Inquiry into the Endowed Schools of North Wales, which is now sitting, proposes to convert it into a Latin or secondary school; and a local inquiry is also

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\* In trust for the poor of Wigfair and Meriadog.

<sup>1</sup> Bought, in 1745, with £150 left by Thomas Humphreys, Esq., of Bodelwyddan, and Rev. Dr. John Davies, Prebendary of Faenol, for catechising the children and the better support of the almswomen.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 84 *suprà*.

<sup>3</sup> Piers Roberts' Diary.

being made into the parochial charities, with a view to increase its endowment, and revive it as the old Grammar School.

The handsome new National School, with its rooms for Boys and Girls, Class-room, and Master's House, was erected, in 1863, at a cost of about £1800, on a site near the Cathedral, in lieu of the previous Schools which were built by subscription in 1831; and of which the Boys' School has been converted into cottages, and the Girls' is now known as the Infants' School.

The east front of the Palace was built in 1791 by Bishop Bagot, and the west front in 1831 by Bishop Carey. The Deanery was rebuilt by Dean Luxmore in 1830; and the Canonry built by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1857. No house has been provided for the vicars, most of whom have held cures elsewhere also. A list of the Vicars has been already given at p. 267.

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#### BODELWYDDAN.

THE three Townships of Bodelwyddan, Faenol, and Pengwern in St. Asaph, with an area of 4,109a. 3r. 29p., and a population of 630, were gazetted as a separate parish, August 3rd, 1860. The Rectorial Tithes, commuted at £1006 2s., and previously attached to the Prebend of Faenol in the Cathedral Church, lapsed, on the death of the Rev. William Cleaver, the last holder of that dignity on the old foundation, to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who sold them to the Lady Margaret Willoughby de Broke, to form the endowment of the beautiful Church, founded by her to the memory of her husband, on the stipulation that until the expiration of an existing lease for three lives, made on the 12th August, 1828, the immediate endowment should be £200 per ann.; and that the patronage should be vested in Sir Hugh Williams, Bart., and his heirs for ever.

The Church, dedicated in the name of St. Margaret, was consecrated August 23rd, 1860; the foundation-stone having been laid July 24th, 1856. It is of the style of the best period of the Decorated, and consists of chancel, nave, and aisles, west tower, surmounted by a spire, and an octagonal vestry in the angle between the chancel and north aisle. The material of the main portion of the fabric is the local limestone, rough or dressed according to position, the plain facing of the interior of the nave being of cream-coloured Talacre stone, whilst Belgian red marble, Irish black marble, alabaster, veined and white, and Caen stone artistically wrought and choicely carved, combine to produce an admirable richness of effect throughout. The nave, of five bays with north and south aisles, has its massive piers formed of clustered shafts of Belgian red marble, resting on bases of the native stone, with capitals of the same material, richly carved with the passion flower and with oak and ivy leaves; capped by a deeply moulded abacus of marble. Above the piers, in the spandrels, are shafts of Belgian red marble on richly-carved corbels, each of which





ST. MARGARET'S, BODELWYDDAN.





exhibits a coronet, and on the south side one of the letters of the name "Henry Peyton W. de B.;" and on the north that of "Margaret W. de B.," thus quietly but indelibly impressing its monumental character.<sup>1</sup> The hammer-beam roof, with its arched principals and collars and cusped spandril pieces, is lighted up with a clerestory of small trefoiled openings, not seen from the exterior, and by lucernes at a higher point. The lower part of the tower is made to serve as a kind of antechurch or porch; over which, carried by double polished columns of Anglesea marble, is a gallery with a light open front or parapet; and through the lofty arch above it is seen the great west window filled with stained glass. The chancel has a more ornamental character in all its details. Ogee crocketed canopies rising from shafts and corbels, and projecting to form niches, run along the three sides, more elaborately enriched where the reredos occurs. Alabaster, varied in tint, is used for the backs of the niches at the sides, Languedoc marble for the shafts, and picked white alabaster for the capitals and corbels, the bases being Purbeck marble. The arcades or niches at the sides have the canopies of Caen stone, whilst alabaster is used for those of the reredos. The roof principals are carried by clustered wall shafts. These last are of rich red Griotte marble, with a thin fillet of Irish black in each hollow, making each red shaft stand out in greater richness of form and colour. The ceiling is formed into square panels by moulded ribs, with rosettes and bosses at the intersections, and springs from an enriched cornice of which the lower mouldings are carried down to the capitals to form a square head or label, with spandrils over the wall arches above the windows. Each arched principal rib is formed with a cusped trellis work filling-in of what may be called the web, and with mouldings and the ball floor on the inner edge, corresponding with the projection of the capital from which it springs.

The chancel is seated stall-wise, and the nave has open seats, in each case with appropriate panelling and ends. The reading-desk is well-designed, but the gem of all the beautiful wood-carving is the exquisite workmanship of the pulpit of rich and picturesque design, presented by the Misses Williams, sisters of the founder. The font, of white Carrara marble, representing two children<sup>2</sup> holding a shell, is the gift of Sir Hugh Williams. Lady Williams contributed the Communion-plate. The pavement, owing to the abundance of room (the seats hold only two hundred and eighty), is a noticeable feature of the edifice, and of a trellis pattern:—The borders being of Irish black and rouge-royal marble polished, the dots of Irish black and the squares in the nave of Portland stone rubbed, but in the chancel of Sicilian marble,

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<sup>1</sup> This is also effected by the two portraits on each side of the west window; and it may be added that the Queen and Bishop Short are also represented, in the same way, on the east window.

<sup>2</sup> Portraits of the donor's two youngest daughters.

which is also the material of the steps both to it and to the Sacarium. Shafts of polished Aberdeen granite support the western doorway.

The chief features of the tower and spire, which rise to the height of two hundred and two feet, are the batter, or slight inclination inwards of the tower-buttresses, the windows and bands of pierced work, which give so much lightness to the spire, and the line of pinnacles about its base, which combine architecturally to carry the thrust into the buttresses, and æsthetically to lead the eye from the vertical line of the one to the sloping line of the other.

The church contains some good stained glass by O'Connor, also the gift of the Misses Williams. In the chancel, the east window has five, and the rest three lights each, with geometrical tracery. Five are filled with stained glass representing different incidents in the Life of our Lord; one on the north side being a memorial to the Rev. W. Williams-Edwards, died 1829; and another on the south to Sir John Hay Williams, died 1859. The east window of the north aisle, when approached or receded from, has a curious kaleidoscopic effect; that of the south aisle is filled with armorial insignia. The circular window at the west end is also filled with coloured glass, and the two side windows of the tower contain figures of St. Kentigern and St. Margaret.

The architect was Mr. John Gibson, of Westminster, and where every detail has been so carefully carried out, it may interest to know that Mr. Earp executed the carved work of the pulpit, the chancel bosses, and the stall ends; Mr. Grey, of Leamington, the roof and seats of the nave; Mr. Harmer, the carved Caen and alabaster work of the chancel; Mr. Peter Hollings, the font; Mr. John Thomas, the greater portion of the fabric; and Messrs. Holme and Nicol, of Liverpool, the spire.

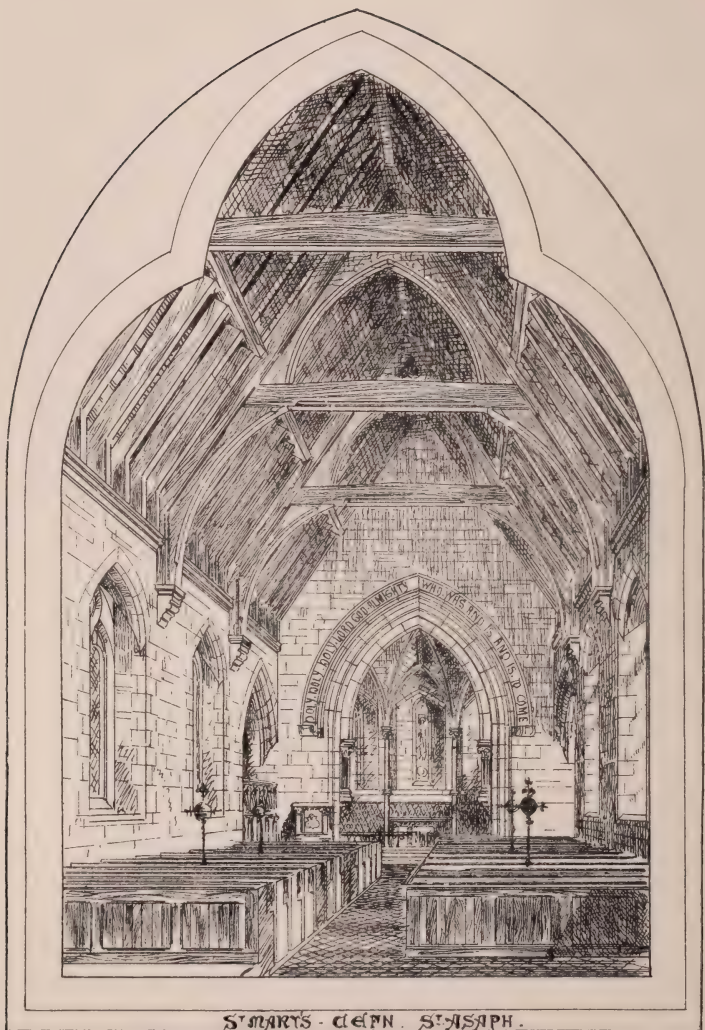
Handsome Schools for Boys and Girls, with Houses for Master and Mistress, an excellent Rectory, and a model Village were all added at the same time by the munificent founder at a vast outlay, and with a free ungrudging hand.

#### INCUMBENTS.

- 1860.—WILLIAMS, David, M.A., Jesus College, Cambridge, Gatford Scholar B.A., 1817, R. Llandwrog 1836-60, Rural Dean of Arfon, 1856-60.  
 1865.—LEWIS, William Hancock, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford, Scholar, B.A., 1851.  
 1865.—WILLIAMS, William Rees, M.A., Sidney College, Cambridge, 21st Wrangler and B.A., 1843; D., 1845; Pr., 1853; Principal of Carnarvon Training College, 1856-65; Chaplain to Dowager Lady Willoughby de Broke, 1858-66.
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S<sup>t</sup> MARTYR - CLERN. S<sup>t</sup> ASAPH.

## ST. MARY'S, CEFN.

THE two townships of Meriadog and Wigfair, forming part of the parish of St. Asaph, but lying in the county of Denbigh, with an area of 2,850 a. 1 r. 16 p., a gross estimated rental of £3,626 : 7 : 4, and rateable value of £3,366 : 1 : 3, with a population of 613, were gazetted as a new parish by an Order in Council, 7th Feb. 1865; and on the 4th of April it was endowed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners with the tithes of the said townships, commuted at £292 per ann., formerly belonging to the deanery of the cathedral church, but which had lapsed to them on the death of Dean Luxmoore. The living, which is in the patronage of the Bishop, was by a subsequent Order in Council, 29th June, 1866, constituted into a rectory.

The church, St. Mary's, consecrated by Bishop Short, Sept. 3rd, 1864, is built in the Early English style of the beginning of the thirteenth century, from the designs of Mr. B. Ferrey, F.S.A. Its plan is cruciform, and consists of apsidal chancel, nave, north and south transepts (the former screened off as a vestry, the latter intended for the school children), and a south porch. The material, even to the marble steps and columns of the chancel, with their foliated capitals, is the native limestone quarried and worked upon the spot; save only the groined roof of the chancel, which is of Bath, and the pulpit of Rhuabon, stone. It is floored throughout with encaustic tiles (by Maw); and those of the reredos, bearing the appropriate fleur-de-lis, give warmth and colour to the whole. The nave has an open roof, and the seats are free and unappropriated. The font, of white Carrara marble, representing a kneeling angel bearing a scallop-shell, emblematic of the Christian's pilgrimage, is a copy of that at Copenhagen, by Thorwaldsen, was executed by his pupil, Stein, and is the gift of Sir W. Williams Wynn, Bart. The Communion plate was presented by the Earl of Powis; the alms-dish by W. W. E. Wynne, M.P.; the altar-cloth and harmonium by Mrs. Williams-Wynn. The Duchess Dowager of Northumberland added the standards for lighting the nave; and Mrs. Howard of Wigfair, the corona, pulpit, and desk-lights. The church contains also much excellent memorial-glass by Lavers and Barraud. The five lancets of the chancel, to the memory of Col. Herbert W. Williams-Wynn, presented by Lady Williams-Wynn and by Miss Lloyd, represent respectively the Infancy, the Mockery, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection, and the Commission. Those at the west end (two lancets surmounted by a rose-window) are a memorial to the late Edward Lloyd of Cefn (died 15th Nov. 1848), by his widow and daughters. The lancets represent our Lord as the "Light of the World," and as "Blessing little Children."<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> In addition to these special gifts, £200 were subscribed by the Church Building Society, and £100 by each of the following contributors: Bishop Short, Duchess Dowager of Northumberland, Dowager Lady Willoughby de

This church may be regarded as, in a great measure, a memorial to him by whose influence and exertion it was mainly brought into existence, but who was suddenly cut off before the building was actually begun. The foundation-stone was laid, in March 1863, by his eldest son; and Sir Watkin, desirous to carry out his brother's wishes, and to give it at the same time still more of a memorial character, undertook all additional costs, and completed it at a further outlay of some £1,500; the total cost being near £3,000.

The School, built in 1858 by Col. and Mrs. Williams Wynn, was further enlarged in 1863, and was used for divine service for the three months preceding the consecration of the church.

In Wigfair (Mary's grove), in this parish, is the once famous Ffynnon Fair, or Holy Well, with the ruins of the chapel that formerly enclosed it.<sup>1</sup> The strong spring of pure cold water that here bursts forth from the fissured and cavernous limestone formation, early acquired and long retained, like the sister wells at Holywell and Cwm, the popular veneration. The present form of the well is a square with three of the sides formed into salient angles; and at each point once rose a pier supporting arches and canopied work, as at Holywell. This was enclosed in the west end of a cruciform building, the eastern and longer arm of which was no doubt the chancel. The southern arm, or transept, seems to have been the earliest portion of the edifice; there being still a small window looking east, the heads of the three lights of which, and a doorway close by, possess Decorated characters; the rest of the chapel being of the late Perpendicular style. Here, as appears from Piers Roberts' Diary, marriages continue to have been solemnised (sometimes, indeed, clandestinely) so late as 1640, by the vicars choral of St. Asaph; and from one of the entries we further learn that the 20th of August was "the wake-day there." Browne Willis, writing in 1720, says that it had "*formerly* been served by the vicars of St. Asaph, for ease of the neighbouring inhabitants" (i, 27). It is not known when it ceased to be so, whether at the Reformation or during the Commonwealth. An attempt was made to restore it in James the Second's time. It forms the subject of Mrs. Hemans' poem on "Our Lady's Well," and has given a dedication to the new parish church.

*Rector*.—1864. THOMAS, David Richard, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; scholar, 1852-9; second class Mod., 1855; first Goldsmith Exhib.; third class and B.A., 1856; D. 1857; P. 1858; curate of Rhuddlan and St. Asaph, 1857-9; curate of Selattyn, 1859-64. Author of "A Sermon on the Burial Service," Oswestry, 1859; "Two Memorial Sermons," St. Asaph, 1864; "Esgobaeth Llanelwy, a History of the Diocese of St. Asaph," London, Part I, 1870.

Broke, Mrs. Lloyd, Miss Lloyd, Colonel Herbert Williams-Wynn, M.P. (and site for the church), Sir Hugh Williams, Bart., and Mrs. Howard. The total subscriptions amounted to nearly £1,400.

<sup>1</sup> Described and illustrated in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, ii, p. 261, 1847, by H. L. J.



## BODVARI.

THIS place, situate on the Roman road from *Deva* to *Conovium* (Chester to Caerhŷn), and supposed to be identical with the *Vari* of Antoninus' *Itinerary*, is generally thought to derive its name from that of a Roman general, Varus; but it may, perhaps, be more correctly identified in Diheufar, Deifar, or Diar, the founder of the church,<sup>1</sup> whose name occurs in the early legend of St. Winifred, and whose well continued long famous not only for its annual processional service on Ascension Day, but also for a less laudable custom derived, there need be little doubt, from the heathen rites with which the Roman soldiers worshipped Æsculapius, their god of health.<sup>2</sup>

The parish consists of the two townships of Bodvari, in Flintshire, with an area of 1,449 acres, and population of 383; and Aberwheeler, in Denbighshire, with an area of 3,313 acres, and a population of 430. The first notice of it appears to occur in *Domesday*, A.D. 1088, which mentions "Dissard, *Boteuuaril*, and Ruargor,"<sup>3</sup> with the important addition, "*ibi in dominio ecclesia cum presbytero.*" Five years later, in A.D. 1093, we read that "William de Punterleya (qu. Pounderling) gave to the monks of St. Werburgh's, in Chester, *Batavari*, the church and manor and wood of Leston, for beacons and domestic fuel."<sup>4</sup> In the *Taxatio* of 1291, "*ecclesia de Bottervarnn taxat' £4: 6: 8; decim' 8s. 8d.*"; and there is no notice of the impropriation, which had, doubtless, fallen through in the intervening troubles. The next notice is of great importance as shewing that the tithes of Aberwheeler were already in the Bishop of St. Asaph's hands; and that he allowed 40s. per ann., equivalent to a curate's stipend, to the rector of Bodvari for attending to the spiritual interests of the inhabitants of that township.<sup>5</sup> The date of this appropriation would seem to connect it either with the confiscation of Maesmynan, the residence of Llewelyn, the last Prince of Wales, or with Edward the First's grant of Coedymyn-

<sup>1</sup> Rees' *Welsh Saints*, p. 276.

<sup>2</sup> "About three hundred yards from the church is Diar's or Deifer's Well, to which they go in procession on Ascension Day, and read the Litany, ten Commandments, Epistle and Gospel." (Bishop Maddox's MS. Bk.) "Here, too, the poorest person in the parish used to offer a chicken, after going nine times round the well,—a cockerel for a boy, and a pullet for a girl." And here also "children were dipped to the neck at three of its corners, to prevent their crying in the night."

<sup>3</sup> I must, however, confess to some doubt on this point, as it seems to me that we have here forms of the name *Rhyl* (Bod-yn-y-Rhyl), a wide district at that time, and probably *Rhiwysgor*; *i. e.*, Gwaunysgor.

<sup>4</sup> Charters of St. Werburgh in *Proceedings* of Hist. Soc. of Lanc. and Chesh.

<sup>5</sup> "Concessio xl sol. annuatim solvend' per Epos. Ass. Curato de Bodvari pro inservienda cura Aberchwiler, per L. Ep'um Assav." (A.D. 1310). (*Llyfr Côch*, 48A.)



ydd, which may itself have been part of that property. No distinct mention of Aberwheeler is made in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1535, which returns the "rector' de *Botvarrey* at £10 gross, and £9:5:3 nett; on which 18s. 6½d. were payable as tenths to the king," but it is believed that up to this time they had a chapel of ease of their own, called "Capel Hwlkyn," which was afterwards desecrated into a barn, now converted into a cottage.<sup>1</sup> In 1545, Bishop Warton, or Parfew, granted a lease of the tithes of Aberwheeler, Lleynygwynt, and Blorant, and the advowson of Bodvari, to John Salisbury for eighty years; and this falling in in 1622, was renewed by Bishop Parry for twenty-one years; and such seems to have continued the rule till the present time, the lease to the Bodrhyddan family having been renewed, for the last time, so late as 1852. The tithes of Aberwheeler were commuted at £492, to the Bishop of St. Asaph and lessee; and those of Bodvari at £320, to the rector, who has also a house built in 1812, and twenty acres of land, worth about £30 per ann. The patronage has recently been transferred from the Bishop of St. Asaph to the Bishop of Llandaff.

The church (St. Stephen's), which was rebuilt in 1865, with the exception of the tower, from the designs of T. H. Wyatt, consists of a chancel, with south chamber for organ and vestry (divided from the rest of the church by a screen), nave with south aisle of four bays, western tower and south porch. The chancel, which was built and decorated at the cost of Mrs. Barrett and Miss Mesham, is raised four steps above the nave, floored with ornamental tiles, is seated stall-wise, and has an ornamental reredos inlaid with designs in mosaic. The Communion Table and the pulpit are both of handsomely carved oak, and bear the date 1635. The latter has its panels illustrated with texts and devices emblematic of the virtues of Faith, Justice, Mercy, Watchfulness, and Prudence. The Glastonbury altars have also inserted panels of antique carving, representing the Crucifixion. The nave is open seated, and free, and calculated to hold 346; the roof of open timber-work, and springing from deeply moulded corbels. The renovated font is octagonal in form, with foliated panels. The altar-supports, the corona for lighting the chancel, and the standards for the nave, are all of painted ironwork, and the gift of Miss Mesham. The organ, by Holditch of London, costing about £200, was presented by Mrs. Barrett, in whose memory the east window, a Perpendicular of three lights, transomed and subdivided, has been filled with stained glass, by Clayton and Bell, illustrative of the works of mercy (St. Matt. xxv).

The cost of the restoration has been considerably more than £2,000, the principal contributors being Mrs. Charlotte Barrett and Miss Mesham of Pontryffith; P. P. Pennant, Brynbella; and H. R. Hughes, Kinnel. The plan of the old church has been followed, and the tower

<sup>1</sup> The south aisle of Bodvari Church is said to have been built, but it is not known when, for the accommodation of the inhabitants of Aberwheeler.

left untouched. It is entered from the church by a sharply pointed door, and dates apparently from about 1150 or 1200. In it are three bells inscribed respectively, "1630, God save His Church and King"; "1636, Gloria in excelsis Deo"; and "1636, Cantate Domino, cantate cum ....."

The National School was erected in 1859, at a cost of about £1,000, in lieu of the old one at Brynhyfryd, built in 1839 at a cost of £352:17:11, which had already become dilapidated! It is endowed with £4 10s. per ann., the interest of £100 left by Mrs. Catherine Evans in 1733, and paid by Lord Combermere; and the interest of another £100 added by Mrs. Gabriel Hughes of Denbigh, invested in Liverpool Dock Bonds. The other charities of the parish are, twenty shillings yearly charged on Fron Gôch Farm, in Eglwysfach, by Piers Owen in 1654, distributed on St. Thomas' Day; and £300 invested in Liverpool Dock Bonds, by Mrs. C. Barrett and Miss Mesham, to be applied for the benefit of the parish at the discretion of the rector.

## RECTORS.

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1536 (?)—SALISBURY, Thomas                                       | 1683.—PRICE, J., M.A., v. Mold,   |
| 1537.—PUSKIN, Richd., Dean, 1543                                 | 1661                              |
| 1560.—THOMAS AP RHYS   | 1686.—PRICE, William, vicar cho-  |
| 1573.—PRICE, Lewis   | ral, 1684                         |
| 1600.—JONES, Robert, r. Llan-                                    | 1694.—EVANS, Edward               |
| degla, 1574  | 1706.—DAVIES, Philip              |
| 1629.—JONES, Richard, B.D., v.                                   | 1718.—JONES, Griffith             |
| Dymeirchion, 1623-9; r. Nan-                                     | 1726.—LEWIS, Lewis, c. Selattyn   |
| nerch, 1623-37   | 1728.—WILLIAMS, Gabriel, v. Nant- |
| 1633.—GRIFFITH, I., A.M.   | glyn, 1722                        |
| „ OWENS, Rowland, A.M.   | 1736.—MORGAN, David               |
| 1640.—LLOYD, Thomas, A.M., v.                                    | 174.—JONES, Hugh                  |
| Llanefydd, 1639; comportioner                                    | 1761.—LLOYD, Hedd, of Hafod-      |
| r. Llansannan, 1642; v. Berriew,                                 | unos                              |
| 1643; r. Llanbrynmair, 1644;                                     | 1765.—PRICE, Robert               |
| r. Llangynyw, 1661; v. Caer-                                     | 1812.—MASON, John, M.A., Oriel    |
| wys, 1666  | Coll. Oxf.; v. Bettws yn Rhos,    |
| 1666.—EYTON, David   | 1818. Author of "Welsh Ser-       |
| 1668.—ROBERTS, Philip, B.D.,                                     | mons," 2 vols., Ruthin, 1830      |
| Canon, 1670  | 1818.—HUGHES, Edward, r. Llan-    |
| 1675.—WILLIAMS, William  | ddulas, 1814                      |
| 1681.—LLOYD, Griffith  |                                   |
| 1850.—BROWNE, Thos. Birch Llewelyn, M.A.; scholar of Jesus Coll. |                                   |
| Oxf.; B.A. 1831; D. 1832; Pr. 1833; P. C., Flint, 1840-1850.     |                                   |

## CAERWYS.

THIS Parish, which derives its name from *Caer* (Castra), a "camp," and *Gwys*, a "summons," in reference to its early importance as a place of judicature, or, according to others, *Varus* (i.e. "the Camp of Varus")

betokening a Roman origin, illustrated by the rectangular arrangement of its principal streets, contains the four townships of Tref-Edwyn, Tre-dre, Bryngwyn-ucha', and Bryngwyn-isa, embracing an area of 2,603a. 2r. 30p., of the rateable value of £3,244 17s. 4d., and an agricultural population of 853.

The Living, previously consisting of a Sinecure Rectory and Vicarage, was formed into a Rectory with Cure of Souls, by Bishop Barrow's Act in 1678, and is now in the patronage of the Bishop of Llandaff, to whom it was transferred from St. Asaph in 1861. In the *Taxatio* of 1291 the "Rectoria" is returned as "£4 : 0 : 0, non decimat," and the "Vicaria," £4 : 1 : 8, minus 8s. 2d. for tenths. In the *Valor Eccles.* of 1535 both are given as of equal value, £9 : 8 : 8, minus 8s. 10½d. for tenths in each. The present value of the tithes is by commutation £425 : 0 : 0 to the Rector, and £5 to the Parish Clerk ; the former has, moreover, a good house and five acres of glebe.

The Church, St. Michael's,<sup>1</sup> consists of two equal and parallel aisles, with a massive military tower at the west end of the northern one, and a vestry attached to the south side of the other. It appears to have been built at different periods, the oldest portion being the western half of the south aisle ; the next, the north aisle ; and the most recent, the eastern half of the south aisle or chancel ; in the south wall of which is a handsome recess of decorated character, intended probably for the founder's tomb, or, perhaps, for a sepulchre, *i.e.*, a receptacle for the crucifix during the interval between Good Friday and Easter Day. At present it holds the mutilated half of a female figure, of ruder workmanship and earlier date than itself. The east window of the north aisle is an Early English one of five lights foliated ; and that of the south aisle is also of five lights, but has decorated tracery similar to that of the transept windows in the Cathedral. Three wooden pillars separate the aisles, the roofs of which have been recently restored ; that of the north one being of open timber-work, and that of the south ceiled in wood with a cornice of foliated circles, surmounted by the billet, and bands of the vine-leaf marking the purlins. The Communion Table bears the date 1620 ; some pews, 1682, 1684 ; the desk and pulpit, on the south wall, 1791. Some alterations were made in the Church in 1810, and others still later. The oldest tombstone appears to be the one built into the south wall, to "Robertus Evans," died 1582, probably the Boy-Rector appointed by Bishop Goldwell in 1557. Epitaphs commemorate "Honest Richard Foulkes, of Ysceiviog" (no great compliment to his contemporaries), "Thomas Lewis," who officiated as Curate "with great applause," and "John Lloyd," Rector 1778-1793 (the friend and coadjutor of Pennant), whom it describes as "Rei Historicæ et anti-

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<sup>1</sup> He is represented in a fragment of stained glass in the east window. Near the church is "Erw Mihangel" (St. Michael's acre); and not far off his well, "Ffynnon Mihangel," at which it used to be the custom to offer pins for the cure of warts and sore eyes.



quitatum, precipue quantum ad Cambros et Cambriam spectet, felix et acerrimus inquisitor."

Among the entries in the Registers, which date from 1673, are "A Charge to the Churchwardens respecting the Charities of the Parish," 1674; several affidavits of compliance with the "Act for burying in Woollen;" and a curious "Prediction about the end of the world, based upon astronomical calculations and certain combinations of nine and seven, ending with a prayer for grace and protection," by Thos. Griffith, sub-anno 1688.

The Charities of the Parish amount to £5 per ann., arising from Ty-hir, purchased in 1757 with consolidated benefactions.

The National School has a small endowment of £2 : 10 : 0 per ann., arising from land assigned for that purpose by the Enclosure Commissioners in 1815; it was built in 1833, in lieu of a previous one erected in 1813, now used as a dwelling-house.

In this parish are Maesmynan, the residence of Llewelyn, the last native Prince of Wales, and Maes y coed, the birthplace of John Wynne, D.D., Bishop of St. Asaph, and afterwards of Bath and Wells. Angharad Llwyd, a great Collector of Welsh MSS. (The Ty yn y Rhyl MSS.), and authoress of *The History of Anglesea*, was born at the Vicarage.

## SINECURE RECTORS.

- 1537.—WILLIAM AP ROBERT, a  
Deacon  
1554.—EDWARDS, Humphrey  
1557.—ROBERT AP IENN or Evan<sup>1</sup>  
1582.—BANKS, T., M.A., Dean, 1587  
1584.—BELLOT, Hugh, D.D.<sup>2</sup>  
1586.—YONGE, I., v. Hope, 1571  
1596.—GRIFFITH, Ithel, Canon,  
1614  
1614.—MORGAN, Evan, B.D., Preb.  
Meifod, 1617  
1617.—MEREDITH, John, r. Llan-  
degla, 1606; v. Whitford, 1608  
1618.—ROBERTS, Hugh, v. Choral,  
1587; v. Llangwm, 1609; v.  
Denbigh; and r. Llysfaen, 1613  
1653.—ROBERTS, G., v. Mold, 1643  
,, (CHANTRELL, William)  
1661.—PIERCE, John  
1663.—THELWALL, Andrew, A.M.,  
r. Llandderfel, 1641  
1675.—HERAULT, Lewis, D.D.

## VICARS.

- 1570.—JOHN AP ROBERT  
1573.—JOHN AP JOHN AP HARRI  
1575.—GRIFFITHS, T., deprived  
,, ROBERT AB EDWARD  
,, GRIFFITHS, Thos., restored  
1606.—ELLIS, David, B.D., Canon,  
1623  
1608.—KYFFIN, Edward  
1624.—OWENS, Robert  
1639.—EVANS, Edward  
1653.—OWENS, Ganmore  
1666.—LLOYD, Thomas  
1671.—JONES, Roger  
,, JONES, William  
1675.—GRIFFITH, Thomas  
1697.—PRICE, Hugh

<sup>1</sup> "Robertus Evans, adhuc puer (Grammaticam discens)."—Br. Willis, ii, p. 139.

<sup>2</sup> Vicar of Gresford; Bishop of Bangor, 1585; translated to Chester, 1595.



## RECTORY AND VICARAGE CONSOLIDATED.

- 1702.—EDWARDS, Richard, vicar, 1816.—WILLIAMS, William, M.A.,  
Llanfair, D.C., 1729 Canon, 1827
- 1730.—FFOULKES, Edward 1826.—RICHARDS, Richard, vic.  
1740.—PRICE, Thomas Meifod, 1849
- 1750.—LLOYD, Griffith 1849.—DAVIES, Morgan, M.A.,  
1760.—HUGHES, Peter Canon Residentiary, 1861
- 1778.—LLOYD, John, r. Nannerch, 1852.—ROBERTS, David, M.A., r.  
1774 Llandyrnog, 1859
- 1794.—LLOYD, I., rect. Bettws- 1859.—HUMPHREYS, Owen Jones,  
Gwervyl Gôch, 1766 M.A., Jesus College, Oxford, r.  
1814.—PARRY, Edward Llanddulas, 1849
- 1859.—HUGHES, William, B.D., St. David's, Lampeter, D. 1833; Pr.,  
1834; P. C., St. David's, Liverpool, 1845-54; P. C., Llanwddyn,  
1854-9; author of "Treatise on Infant Baptism."

## CWM.

THIS parish, which derives its name from its situation,<sup>1</sup> consists of the townships of Uwchllan and Islan, embracing an area of 3,668a. 2r., and a population of 495; the estimated rental being £3,966 : 9 : 2, and the rateable value, £3,731 : 7 : 6.

The Living was formerly divided between a Sinecure Rector and a Vicar, in the patronage of the Bishop of the See; but in 1840 the former office fell into abeyance, and in 1861 the appointment to the Vicarage was transferred to the Bishop of Llandaff.

		£	s.	d.		s.	d.
The <i>Taxatio</i> of 1291 returns the Rectoria at		4	13	4...	Decima	-	9 4
Ditto ditto Vicaria	-	4	6	8...	„	-	8 8
The <i>Valor</i> of 1535 returns the Rectoria at		6	5	8...	„	-	12 6¾
Ditto ditto Vicaria	-	5	8	8...	„	-	10 10½
The Commutation of 1844 gives £260 : 19 : 2¾ to Treasurers of Q. A. B.							
for the lapsed sinecure; and £269 : 19 : 2¾ to the vicar.							

The Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1847 augmented the Vicarage by a grant of £50 per ann., and built a Vicarage House; and in 1859 commuted the above augmentation for tithes valued at £68 : 19 : 3; they also added two pieces of rectorial glebe, let at £4 per ann., besides which the Vicar also has 8a. 2r. of glebe formerly divided between him and the Rector.

<sup>1</sup> *Cwm*, a "valley where the sides come together in a concave form, whereas the sides of a *glyn* approach in a convex form." (W. O. Pughe.) It corresponds to the Cornish *cum* or *combe*, a valley opening downwards from a narrow point.

The Church, dedicated in the names of SS. Mael and Sulien, consists of a single body, divided by its peculiarly sloping position into three levels, which originally may have been the sacrarium, chancel, and nave. In the north wall is a plain recess for a tomb, apparently that of "Tangwystl the wife of Llewelyn ap Meilir," formerly in the chancel, but afterwards removed into the churchyard. The stoup for holy water still remains in the south wall near the porch. The east window is an Early English one of five lights foliated. The Church has a gallery at the west end, and some very high and unsightly pews put up a few years ago. The chalice is inscribed "Rhôdd Rd. Parry, Esq.<sup>1</sup> i'w Eglwys Blwyf y Cwm, 1647."

There was an old tradition that the original church stood on the mountain top: "Y trigolion a ddywedent fod yr hen Eglwys ar ben mynydd y Cwm."

Three four-cornered bells are also stated in the same MS. Book<sup>2</sup> to have been discovered on the hill near the Church, and to have been called respectively, "The yellow bell of Cwm," "The white bell of Abergele," and "The blue bell of Llanddulas." These were probably some of the ancient handbells so greatly revered in the Early British and Irish Churches, as relics of their early founders, and of which Giraldus Cambrensis writes in his *Itinerarium Cambriae*, that "both the laity and clergy in Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, held in such veneration certain portable bells that they were more afraid of swearing falsely by them than by the Gospels, because of some hidden and miraculous power with which they were gifted."<sup>3</sup> A clue to the dedication of the "Hen Eglwys," or Oratory, may be supplied by "Cloch felen Beuno," who was closely connected with these parts. "Ffynnon Asa" in this parish is a strong natural spring, bursting up from the limestone rock with sufficient power to work the Marian Mills within a few yards from its source. It appears to have been at one time covered by a building, and there are still indications of five angles or porches similar to those of St. Mary's Well at Wigfair and St. Winifred's at Holywell.

There are two Charities belonging to the Parish:—1. That of Elizabeth Hughes, consisting of about seven acres of land let at £15 per ann., which was formerly applied to apprenticing poor boys, but is now appropriated to the support of the Parish School. 2. That of Edward Jones, £2 per ann., charged on the Brynllithrig Estate, and distributed among the poor by the Vicar and Churchwardens on St. Thomas's Day. In 1831 a sum of £36 : 14 : 6 (being £25 left by the Rev. George Smith, with arrears of interest) was "disposed of by the parish officers in paying law expenses incurred by the parish!"

<sup>1</sup> Of Pwllhalog, son of Bishop Parry.

<sup>2</sup> Written by Rev. Dr. Maurice, in the possession of the Dean of St. Asaph.

<sup>3</sup> See further on this subject, *Arch. Camb.*, vol. iii, pp. 230, 301, 1848.

## SINECURE RECTORS.

- 1537.—ELLIS, Roger, sinecure r.  
Corwen  
1547.—PYDLESTON, Hugh, LL.B.,  
Preb. Llanfair, 1517  
1560.—UROYTRES, John  
1570.—EVANS, Hugh, A.M., Dean,  
1560  
1574.—HUGHES, Bishop in Com-  
mendam  
1592.—PICKERING, Thomas, D.D.  
1608.—GRIFFITH, Ithel, Canon,  
1614  
1609.—PARRY, Bishop in Com-  
mendam  
1616.—PRICE, Ffoulk, D.D., Preb.  
Llanfair, 1599  
1624.—GRIFFITH, Hugh, LL.D.  
1644.—ERSKINE, William, D.D.,  
Preb. Llannefydd, 1644  
1653.—ROGERS, William, B.D.,  
Canon, 1660  
1660.—FFOULKES, William, A.M.,  
Canon, 1662  
1661.—DAVIES, Randolph, vicar of  
Meifod, 1661  
1697.—WILLIAMS, Roger (Pro-  
ceedings against the Bishop of  
St. Asaph, p. 38)  
1705.—JONES, THOS., Canon, 1702  
1722.—BABINGTON, Josiah, v.  
choral, 1719  
1738.—MAURICE, Peter, Dean of  
Bangor, 1727-50  
1748.—HAY, John, sinecure r.  
Hope, 1750, brother to Bishop  
Drummond  
1751.—BATLEY, Oliver  
1763.—ADAMS,<sup>1</sup> William, D.D.,  
Master of Pembroke College,  
Oxford, 1775  
1780.—HALIFAX, Bishop in Com-  
mendam  
1789.—FINCH, Hon. Daniel, M.A.,  
Fellow of All Souls, Oxford

## VICARS.

- 1526.—GRUFFYDD AB ITHEL  
1540.—JOHN GRUFFYDD, r. Llys-  
faen, 1524 ; v. Llanrwst, 1537 ;  
v. Llanfor  
1594.—SMITH, George, LL.B.,  
Chancellor, 1595  
1608.—ELLIS, David, D.D., Canon,  
1623  
1623.—MOSTYN, Simon, B.D.,  
Preb. Llanfair, 1623  
1624.—WILLIAMS, John, A.M.,  
Preb. Llannefydd, 1660  
1625.—LLOYD, Robert, A.M., r.  
Halkin, 1594 ; v. Llanasa, 1614 ;  
v. Llanrwst, 1619 ; v. Llandys-  
sil, 1629 ; v. Nannerch, 1629  
1633.—GRIFFITH, J., deprived  
,, EDWARDS, John, Preb.  
Llanfair, 1674  
1662.—MAURICE, Humphrey, vic.  
choral, 1660  
1668.—WILLIAMS, J.  
1710.—HUMPHREYS, J., v. Eglwys-  
fach, 1697  
1727.—LLOYD, Pierce  
1761.—EDWARDS, John  
1788.—WHITLEY, Peter, v. choral,  
1776 ; v. Nantglyn, 1778  
1820.—JONES, John, M.A., v.  
Holywell, 1807-36 ; v. Llan-  
sannan, 1833  
1833.—SMALLEY, John Samuel,  
M.A., Jesus College, Oxford  
1858.—GRIFFITH, Thomas, M.A.,  
Queen's College, Cambridge,  
D., 1825 ; Pr., 1826 ; v., Llan-  
for, 1843-58

<sup>1</sup> Chaplain to Bishop Cresset of Llandaff, whom he succeeded in his rectory of Condover, and to Bishop Newcome. Author of two volumes of sermons and tracts (1777), one of them being in answer to Hume's *Essay on Miracles*.



## DISSERTH.

DISSERTH (Din-serth), the "steep fort," in allusion to the precipitous site of its old castle, appears first in *Domesday* as one of the berewicks of Rhuddlan, with a further notice that "ibi est ecclesia cum presbytero." Seven years after, A.D. 1093, the church of "Dessart" was bestowed by William Meschinus on the monks of St. Werburgh's, Chester. How long this arrangement continued does not appear; but it must have been in a great measure dependent upon the fate of the castle, which was last fortified by Henry II, c. 1241, and destroyed twenty years later by Llewelyn ap Gruffydd. In the *Taxatio* of 1291, "Ecclesia de Deyserch cum capella sua de Rywlyfnwyd," is returned at £10, minus £1, tenth. Some time after this it became appropriate to the archdeaconry, and was put down in the *Valor* of 1535 as worth £16 : 13 : 4. In 1573 Bishop William Hughes took the archdeaconry into *commendam*, and rebuilt the glebe house in 1584, from which time it continued to be the chief residence of the Bishops of St. Asaph until the palace was rebuilt by Bishop Bagot in 1795.

The tithes, commuted at £393 : 19 : 3, to the Bishop as archdeacon, passed, on the death of Bishop Carey, to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who also are the holders of Church property formerly belonging to the Bishop and Chapter,<sup>1</sup> to the extent of 312 a. 0 r. 6 p., of the rateable value of £350 per ann. The vicar's income is £160 from the tithes, and £50 per ann. from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners; in addition to which he has a large house, rebuilt by Bishop Bagot in 1799, and nineteen acres of glebe.

The parish embraces an area of 1,884 acres, divided between the two townships of Rhyd and Trecastell, with a population of 1,098, chiefly engaged in the lead mines of Talar-Goch, and the iron and limestone quarries on the Foel.

The church, Llansantffraid, *i. e.* St. Bride or Bridget's, is a small building of a single body, old and dilapidated, but possessing several features of interest. The Perpendicular east window, of five lights, retains the remains of a fine, richly toned tree of Jesse, or emblematical representation of the genealogy of our Lord, with the apostles in the head-tracery; and is of the date of the fifteenth century, as appears from some inscriptions formerly upon it,—"*Orate pro bono statu parochianorum ad faciend' istam fenestram MCCCC*," and "*Orate pro bono statu Johannis Tubney, Archid.*" Other dates representing other alterations are, "1579" on one of the collars of the roof; "1603, A. Reg. 45," over the porch; "Sir John Conway, 1636," over the south window of the chancel. The font, which had become very much injured, has been renewed, and bears the legend, "*Restauravit J. W. Hardman, M.A., MDCCCLXIII.*" The south wall still has the stoup for

<sup>1</sup> For the original grants, see *suprà*, p. 190.



holy water, and on the floor are two early incised slabs. The cross in the churchyard is said to have been brought hither from Bryn Einion, where it was originally erected to mark the spot on which Einion, son of Ririd Flaidd, was slain by an arrow during the siege of the castle, c. A.D. 1261. It has the same sort of curious interlaced ornamentation as Maen Achwynfan, in the neighbouring parish of Whitford, and once bore, according to Gruffydd Hiraddug, the inscription,—

“Oc si petatur, lapis yste kausa notatur  
Einion oxi’ Ririd Flaidd filius hoc memoratur.”

Two entries in the Register are deserving of notice, the triple marriage in one day (the 26th Nov. 1624) of the widow, son, and daughter of Bishop Parry, to Thomas Mostyn, Esq., of Rhyd, and his son and daughter; and a memorandum inserted at the end of the following year, “Here somme indiscrete personne, finding the church coffer oppen, did with a knife cutt out all that was written from anno Dom. 1625 untill ann. 1635, all which wanteth in this book.”

The new school, which was built for £250, was opened in 1863.

The only charity now belonging to the parish (three other small ones having been lost before 1786), is a sum of forty shillings per ann. chargeable on Bodrhyddan lands, left by Edward Jones in 1636.

Until the death of Bishop Carey, the Bishops of St. Asaph, as archdeacons, were the rectors of Dissersh. Since that time there have been the following perpetual curates:

1846.—WYATT, William Robert, M.A., Brasenose College, Oxford; vic. choral, 1836-60; c. and p. c. Dissersh, 1836-60; p. c. Moreton, 1860.

1860.—WATTS, Edmund Thomas, M.A., Trinity College, Dublin; H. M. Inspector of Schools, 1867.

1867.—HALLOWES, Brabazon, M.A., Lincoln College, Oxford; d. 1842; pr. 1843; vic. Cilcain, 1851-67.

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### GWAUNYSGOR.

THIS is a very small parish, of only 790 acres, situated on the high eminence that suddenly terminates the Clwydian range of mountains in their direction seawards; and derives its name partly, if not entirely, from the situation. From *gwaun*, the Welsh for downs or uplands; and either *ysgor*, a circular entrenchment (such as that called the “Bowling Green,” at the top of the declivity towards Prestatyn); or not improbably, *scôr* or *scâr*, the Norwegian term for an escarpment or precipitous hill (cognate, probably, with the Welsh *esgair* in this sense), and commemorative of a former settlement of the Northmen.<sup>1</sup> The population of the parish is only 380; and it contains the two townships of Gwaunysgor and Carnychan, both of which are mentioned

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<sup>1</sup> See *suprà*, p. 27.

in *Domesday*, A.D. 1088; which further records that there was a church here, "Cancarnacan (Carn Hychan, hodie Carn ucha) et *Wenescol*, est una ecclesia"; which is returned in the *Taxatio* of 1291, "Ecclesia de *Guenysgor* taxatur £5 : 6 : 8, non decimat." In 1535, again, "Rectoria de *Gwenesgore* valet in grosso, cum 6s. 8d. pro terra glebata, £10; inde in repris 12s.; clare, £9 : 8 : 0. Decima regi, 18s. 10½d." The present value, by commutation, is £178 to the rector, and £1 to the parish clerk. The rector has also a house, built in 1816, together with about twelve acres of glebe; and about the same quantity, bought with Queen Anne's Bounty, in the neighbouring parish of Caerwys.

The church, St. Mary's, is small, and consists of a single body, once divided by a screen into nave and chancel. It has been neatly repaired in 1846. The font is a handsome old Norman one, supported on a rude, square base; and over the doorway is the tombstone of a knight hospitaller. The east window, of three lights, is Perpendicular; but a two-light window on the south of the chancel is of earlier character. The Communion plate dates back to 1576; and the Registers are the oldest in the diocese, commencing with 1538 (29 Henry VIII), the second year after their institution. Under the year 1636 they record the order of Archbishop Laud, given at his metropolitan visitation at St. Asaph, the 17th May, 1636, "that the name of the mother of every child, as well as that of the father, should be written in the register books of the parishes." Previously that of the father only had been given.

The old custom of dressing the graves with flowers is reverently observed every Easter. May the truth symbolised therein prove as edifying to those who piously take part in it, as the effect is pleasing in its outward aspect!

This parish, though small, and within an easy distance of the schools at Newmarket and Llanasa, has for the last fourteen or fifteen years had also a school of its own, in which the children are taught gratuitously.

## RECTORS.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1547.—GRUFF, LLOYD, r. Llanfyllin, 1537                    | 1702.—EVANS, Evan, v. Llandrillo yn Edeirnion, 1653   |
| 1557.—THOMAS AP THOMAS, or Gethin                          | 1708.—RICE, William, r. Llanfihangel Glyn-Myfyr, 1677 |
| 1571.—FFULK AP THOMAS, v. Llanasa, 1575                    | 1709.—WILSON, John, r. Penegoes, 1711                 |
| 1589.—LLOYD, Richard                                       | 1711.—WILLIAMS, John                                  |
| 1595.—JONES, Owen.   | 1748.—YALE, John, r. Llandegla, 1760                  |
| 1653.—GRIFFITH, Edmund                                     | 1760.—PUGH, --  |
| 1662.—ROBERTS, Edward, v. Llan-santffraid yn Mechain, 1660 | 1763.—PARRY, Thomas                                   |
| 1672.—OWEN, William  | 1796.—THOMAS, Robert, vic. chor. 1781                 |
| 1686.—PRICE, Hugh, v. Llan-llwchaiarn, 1661                | 1797.—LLOYD, Llewelyn, r. Nan-nerch, 1810             |
| 1697.—DAVIES, Edward                                       |   |





tax' Rectoria £8, decima 16s., Vicaria £2:13:4, non decimat." In the *Valor* of 1535, "Rectoria appropriatur Episcopatu Assaven' et valet £16:0:0, Vicaria valet in grosso £10:0:0, repris 8s. 10d., clare £9:11:2, decima regi 19s. 1¼d." The present value of the tithes, as commuted, is £651 to the Bishop and lessee, and £300 to the vicar,<sup>1</sup> who has also a house, built originally by David Maurice, vicar 1666-84, and enlarged by Edward Evans, vicar, 1856-60, and twelve acres of glebe. How the rectorial tithes became appropriated to the Bishop *alone* does not appear;<sup>2</sup> but the continued leasing of them has been, and is, a grievous wrong to the parish, and a great hindrance to the Church's work. The lease expires Nov. 1, 1870.

The parish is chiefly agricultural, and of large extent, consisting of eight townships,—Gronant, Gwespyr, Kelston, Golden Grove, Picton, Trewaclod, Axtyn, and Trelogan; the area (including 91 acres transferred to Prestatyn), 6,029 acres; rated at £11,290; and the population, by the census of 1861, 2,679. Besides those employed in agriculture, it includes a large number of miners, colliers, and quarrymen, employed not only in the Trelogan and Gronant lead-mines and Gwespyr quarries within the parish, but also at Talargôch and Mostyn. The great majority of these live in the separate hamlets of Ffynnongroyw, Gronant, Gwespyr, Trelogan, and Sarn, grouped at distances of about two miles from the parish church. The two former should have chapels of ease, or mission churches, of their own; the third had, until the Reformation, its Capel Beuno,<sup>3</sup> some remains of which were said to be standing till within recent times, and the site of which is still pointed out. A convenient site for a future church, on Picton Marsh, was bought by Bishop Short in 1854, for about £70, and the conveyance deposited in the Registry Office, St. Asaph.

The church, like most of those in the Vale of Clwyd, consists of two equal aisles, which are said to be dedicated respectively to SS. Asaph and Kentigern. Both the east windows are Perpendicular, that of the north aisle being the more elaborate; but that of the south the more interesting, from its fragments of stained glass, which, as in so many other churches, is said to have come from that prolific quarry, Basingwerk Abbey. The central subject of the five lights was the Crucifixion, with the Virgin and a bishop on the one side, and an ecclesiastic and St. James on the other; the head-tracery being filled with illustrations of the instruments of torture, the bag, the cock, and other incidentals of the Passion. An old manuscript note states that

<sup>1</sup> In 1730 the vicar's share was "the whole tithe corn in Axtyn and Trelogan, tithe hay in Trelogan only, small tithes of both townships, tithe hay of about twenty-four days' math in Gronant and Gwespir. Of wool, lamb, and lactuals, seven out of fifteen,—eight belong to the rector." (Bishop Maddox's MS. Book.

<sup>2</sup> In 1710 four sermons were claimed from the bishop. (Bp. Maddox's Book.)

<sup>3</sup> The village of Gwespyr has hence been sometimes called Trebeuno; but the name never appears in the parish registers.



"St. Lawrence, the patron saint of Spain, figures in it," and concludes that it was "set up from 1501 to 1520, during the time that Catherine of Aragon was the wife of Prince Arthur, and afterwards of Henry VIII." The font, which is also Perpendicular, has its panels carved, and in good preservation, as if they had been plastered over; but is itself much damaged, and held together by iron bands. The rest of the church tells its own tale. The roof of the north aisle and its pillars and arches were rebuilt in 1739. Further repairs were made, as appears from a tablet on the south wall, in 1746; and others again, from a date on the same wall, in 1766. The lych-gate was built in 1735; the brass sconce bought in 1758, for £16:9:6; and the dial set up in 1762; and in 1818 the remains of a chancel-screen were destroyed, and the church reseated with pews, some wide and some narrow, according to the fashion of the period. A new church bell was provided in 1862, and an organ placed in the singing gallery at the west end of the north aisle. An armorial tablet commemorates "Harry Mostyn, Doctor of Lawe, A.D. 1616"; another, "P. H. 1704"; and a pew with an armorial panel, "T<sup>PE</sup>, 1699"; and there are a few others of later date. A marble tablet on the south wall must, however, be noticed, for the testimony it bears to the bravery and self-sacrifice of thirteen men, all of this parish, who, "having been the means of saving four hundred and seventy-six lives from shipwreck on this coast, lost their own by the upsetting of the Point of Ayr life-boat, while nobly endeavouring to assist the crew of a vessel wrecked in Abergele Bay, January 4th, 1857." The chalice and paten date, like those of Gwaunysgor, from 1576, the flagon from 1699. The Registers, which commence from the 25th March, 1629, are well preserved, and continuous throughout, with the exception of the interval of the Commonwealth; there being no entries from Sept. 1648 to 1650, and only a few, and those irregularly inserted, during the incumbency of William Smith, from 1653-1661.

The old schoolroom, near the west end of the church, now converted into cottages, bears the inscription, "Hanc scholam fundavit Thomas ap Hugh, Legato 30 Librarum A.D. 1675." It has been supplanted by a new and handsome school, with class-room and master's house, built by subscription, in 1858, on glebe land, at a cost of £762:9:10.

The charities, including £50 each from Thomas ap Hugh, in A.D. 1671, the founder of the school; and Roger Mostyn, junior, of Cilcain Hall, in 1731; £22 from Edw. Roberts of Axtyn, 1702; £20 from Edward Owen of Gronant, 1672; and £6 from John Conway of Axtyn; amounting in all to £148, were laid out in the purchase of a farm in the parish of Llandrillo yn Rhos, called Tynyffynnon, containing 14 a. 0 r. 12 p., and let for an annual sum of £15. The vicar and churchwardens are the trustees; but they have no title-deeds or documents relating to it. The money is at present disbursed as directed by the wills of the several testators, in white bread weekly to twenty-four poor people, and the surplus is carried to the school account.

## VICARS.

- NICHOLAS or STRETTON, J. 1666.—MAURICE, David, D.D.,  
 1561.—PARRY, J. Preb. Faenol, 1691  
 1564.—POWELL, J., v. Llanrwst, 1684.—OWEN, Oliver  
 1537; r. Llanddoget, 1551 1694.—ROWLANDS, Owen  
 1565.—DAVIES, OWEN 1716.—LLOYD, Hugh, Preb. Mei-  
 1575.—FFULK AP THOMAS, r. fod, 1730  
 Gwaunysgor, 1571 „ JONES, J.  
 1585.—RAWLINGS, William 1728.—JONES, Thomas  
 1602.—MORGAN, Evan, B.D., Preb. 1759.—LLOYD, J. (of Gwrych)  
 Meifod, 1617 1775.—WILLIAMS, Evan  
 1614.—LLOYD, Robt., v. Cwm, 1625 1776.—LLOYD, Richd., v. St. Mar-  
 1615.—MOSTYN, Samuel, A.M. tin's, 1747  
 1618.—SALISBURY, Reginald, v. 1789.—WILLIAMS, J.  
 Llanrwst, 1614; canon, 1622 1798.—PARRY, Henry, M.A., ca-  
 1633.—EVANS, Richard, Preb. Mei- non, 1833  
 fod, 1621 1855.—EVANS, Edward, B.A., r.  
 1653.—(SMITH, Wm., v. Whitford) Llanfihangel yn Ghwnfa, 1860  
 1860.—HUGHES, Thomas Jones, M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge ;  
 Scholar, Wrangler, B.A., 1844; D. and Pr. 1846. Author of an  
 "Essay on the Laws and Principles of English and Welsh Syn-  
 tax."

## MELIDEN.

*Meliden, i. e., Melid-ton*, "the town or vill of Melyd," is the Angli-  
 cised form of Gallt-Melyd, "the steep hill of Melyd"; to which corre-  
 sponds another name by which it was once known, *Rhiw-y-stoc, i. e.*  
 "the steep or precipice of the stockade" (above Gwaunysgor), under  
 which it appears in *Domesday*, "In Presteton et Ruestock est terra  
 I caruc... ibi est ecclesia." Later still, Rustock, or rather *Llys* in  
 Rustock, was a frequent residence of the Bishops of St. Asaph, who  
 dated from thence many of their letters and public documents.

This parish has been, from the earliest times, a contributory to the  
 Cathedral Chapter, and has supplied the income of the Treasurer, who  
 was styled the Prebendary of Meliden. In 1291 his stipend, "*Canonia*  
*de Kefuerth et proventus in capella de Aldmelyden ad eand. Can.*  
*pertinent*," was returned at twelve marcs, or £7:6:8. In 1535 it  
 was valued at £18, and £2 as "sixths" to the bishop. In Bishop  
 Maddox's Book I find the entry, "All the tithes belong to y<sup>e</sup> Prebend,  
 except Maesyffynnon in Prestatyn,  $\frac{2}{3}$  of which belong to the Bishop  
 of Bangor, and the other  $\frac{1}{3}$  to the Prebendary." The commutation  
 gave £350 to the Prebendary of Meliden, and £18 to the impropriator.<sup>1</sup>  
 Until the death of the last Prebendary (Milner), the cure of

<sup>1</sup> Now Mr. John Dawson, lord of the manor, 1870.

souls was left to a curate, whose stipend in Bishop Lloyd's time was £10 per ann.,<sup>1</sup> which was subsequently increased by £400 from Queen Anne's Bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant; to which Prebendary Bouchery added by will, in 1783, £1,000 3 per Cent. Reduced Bank Annuities, left in trust for that purpose to the Dean and Chapter. After the lapse of the prebend to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, the perpetual curate received from them £25 per ann., and a further sum of £11 under an Order in Council, 17 April, 1844; but by a subsequent Order, 1 August, 1860, tithe rent-charges to the value of £116:7:8 were granted in lieu of the above payments; thus raising his income to £151:4:6; besides which there is a house (built in 1852, partly by Queen Anne's Bounty, and partly by subscriptions, at a cost of £576), and about eighteen acres of glebe; making the gross income about £180 per ann.

The area of the mother parish is 1,484 acres, contained in the three townships of Meliden, Prestatyn, and Nant; but the two latter were in 1860 assigned, for ecclesiastical purposes, to the new parish of Prestatyn. The entire population, 1,250; that of Meliden, 590; chiefly employed in the lead-mines of Talargoch.<sup>2</sup>

The church, St. Melyd, May 9th, is small and primitive in form, a simple parallelogram, and has but little requiring particular notice. The east window appears to have been a good one originally. Two early incised slabs with floriated crosses, an early Pointed south door, one closed up on the north side, a font dated 1683, and the earliest Register, 1602, exhaust the category.

The only charity is the interest of fifty-two shillings left by Edward ap Thomas in 1684, as commemorated on his grave-stone, to the poor of the parish, and paid by the owner of Penllan Farm.

The National School is a good and capacious building, erected in 1842 at a cost of £1,460, and is supported by Government aid and annual subscriptions, Mr. Clive and his successors giving six-pence a ton on all the lead raised on his land.

*Vicar.*—HUGHES, Edward, B.A., Queen's College, Cambridge; Deac. 1842, Pr. 1843, appointed to this charge in 1844.

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#### NEWMARKET.

THIS name only dates back to A.D. 1700, in which year Mr. John Wynne of Copparrleini (who rebuilt most of the town, established several branches of industry, and procured for it a weekly market and an annual fair), obtained a faculty from the Bishop's Registry for

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<sup>1</sup> See p. 120 *suprà*.

<sup>2</sup> These famous mines, which have been worked from very early times, have belonged immemorially to the Bishops of St. Asaph. The income derived from them varies according to times and circumstances. In 1831 it was returned at £685; in 1834, £263.



substituting thenceforward this title for the former one, of which he enumerates, in his petition for the change, no fewer than twelve forms, "Rhylofnwid, Rhid-y-lofnid, Trelofnid, Trelofnoyd, Trelawnoyd, Rhelofnoyd, Rhelownyd, Rhelawnid, y Rhyd-y-lofnhayd, Drelownyd, Relofnwyd, Drelawnoyd, *cum multis aliis.*" To these may be added the *Domesday* form, "Trevelsneu," and that employed in Pope Nicholas' Taxation of 1291, "Rywlyfnwyd," with its variations of "Rywnlwyfnwyd," "Rulevenoyt," and "Relefnoid." From which we gather that the original of the name is some form of Lyfnyd (seen also in Copp'a'r-leini or leni, the name of an individual, or of the stream that runs below the village, with the prefix "Rhyd," "Tref," or "Rhyw," according to its reference to the ford over the said stream, the village itself, or the steep on which it is situate. The parish is small, consisting of the two townships of Gop and Graig, and contains an area of 976 acres, with a population of 520.

Ecclesiastically, it was a chapel of ease to Disserth, and is described as such in the *Taxatio* of 1291, "*Ecclesia de Deyserth cum capella sua de Rywlyfnwyd*," its separate value not being given. So also in the *Valor* of Henry VIII, 1536, we find "*Rectoria de Relefnoid appropriatur archidiaconatui*"; its value returned at £9; and in 1846 the tithes were commuted at £234:13:7½ to the Bishop (by whom the archdeaconry had been held *in commendam* since 1589), and £1 to the parish clerk. On Bishop Carey's death, in 1846, it was constituted into a perpetual curacy, with an income of £160 from the Bishop, and £6:10:0 from Queen Anne's Bounty. In 1860 the whole tithes were assigned to it, and it was constituted into a vicarage worth £234:13:7½, with a house built in 1842, chiefly at the cost of Bishop Carey, the rector; and 4 a. 1 r. 13 p. of glebe, besides 16 perches of unenclosed common allotted in 1819.

The church, St. Michael's, is small, only 55 ft. long by 19 broad. It was rebuilt in 1724; put again into good repair, and a gallery at the west end erected in 1863. The organ was given by Mr. Bates of Gyrn. Near the south porch there is a once handsome churchyard cross, of thirteenth century work, now much weather-worn and damaged; but still showing traces of the Crucifixion on its western, and of St. John at the cross on its eastern face.

The Registers, which date from 1698, mention under 1712 the interest of £5 given by Mr. Wynne of Copp'a'rleini, for the purchase of flannel for four old men and women, who were "to draw lots," or "throw dice for it in the porch." The reason for this curious condition was stated on the back of the deed or bond, which, however, has been lost; and it need hardly be added that the custom and the charity have also disappeared.

The same Mr. Wynne, by a codicil to his will, dated 17 Oct. 1713, left a school-house, buildings, and garden, together with £40 per ann. chargeable on his property,<sup>1</sup> for the following uses: school-house,

<sup>1</sup> A schedule of the property chargeable is given in the Charities' Report, 1837, pp. 222-5.



buildings, garden, and £10 per ann., to the schoolmaster, who was to teach twenty free boys from Newmarket, and one from each of seven neighbouring parishes; £12 between twelve pensioners chosen from among the free boys; £2 12s. for an usher; £10 as an annual prize for navigation, to such pensioner as had served his apprenticeship at sea; and £5 8s. in apprenticing two out-parishioners in the parish. The churchwardens to be the trustees. A copy of the will to be kept in the parish church (Disserth) and in his own chapel of Trelefnoyd *alias* Newmarket; and in case of any trouble or hindrance on the part of the heirs or purchasers of his estate, the sums payable to be doubled. None, however, of this money seems to have been paid before 1764, nor after 1776, for in 1770 the estate was sold to Sir Roger Mostyn; but as he disputed his liability to the charity payments, on the plea of not having been made aware of them before the purchase, the matter was thrown into Chancery. Decrees and orders were made in the case in the years 1770, 1783, 1787, 1788, 1789, 1796, and 1798. In 1800 the Master certified that £920 : 15 : 4 were due on account of the annual £40, and £79 for rent and value of schoolroom; allowed £1,240 out of the purchase-money on account thereof, ordered £350 to be laid out in erecting a new school and master's house, drew out a scheme for the school, and appointed trustees. But nothing, again, was done for the charity, beyond the formation of the charity account in the Bank of England, till 1827, when the wardens again appealed to Chancery to carry out the provisions of the codicil. The scheme was approved in 1828, but nothing yet was done, and in 1837 the arrears had increased to £2,519 : 15 : 4. It was not until 1859 that it emerged from Chancery. In that year a new scheme was issued; and the trustees appointed by the Vice-Chancellor held a meeting at the Palace, which resulted in the building of a new school and master's house, which were opened in 1860. The endowment is £80 per ann. charged upon Tre-Abbot, a farm of Lord Mostyn's, in the parish of Whitford.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES.

- 1828.—EVANS, Edward, M.A., Trinity College, Dublin, r. Halkin, 1851.  
 1851.—JACKSON, Richard Henry, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford, r. Llan-  
 elian, 1859.

#### VICARS.

- 1859.—DAVIES, Evan Lewis, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford.  
 1869.—BONNOR, Robert Dempster, B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge;  
 Deacon, 1865; Pr. 1866.

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#### PRESTATYN.

THIS parish was formed by an Order in Council, dated August 1, 1860, out of those of Meliden and Llanasa; taking from the former the two townships of Prestatyn and Nant, and from the latter a portion of

Gronant. Its area is 987 a. 2 r. 2 p., with a population of 500, principally employed in mining.

The living is endowed with commuted tithes of the value of £233:12:4, formerly belonging to the Prebendary of Meliden. There is also an excellent house built in 1866, partly by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners,<sup>1</sup> and partly by subscription, at a cost of about £1250. The glebe, including the garden and the churchyard, amounts to ten acres, five of which were a grant of common lands by the lord of the manor, T. L. Longueville. The patronage is vested in the Bishop and the Crown alternately.

The church was consecrated, as Christ Church, on Whitsun Wednesday, May 27th, 1863, the foundation-stone having been laid on May 26th in the previous year. The style is Early English of the thirteenth century; and the plan consists of chancel and nave, with north bay for school-children; a tower surmounted by a spire, under which lies the principal entrance; and a vestry at the north-east angle. The chancel has an effective reredos consisting of an arcade of Pointed arches, the panels of which are ornamented with sacred monograms and other emblematic designs. The ceiling is also divided into compartments, and has its alternate spaces decorated with the monogram and Scripture texts. The chancel is seated stall-wise, and is divided by an arch as well as raised by steps above the nave, which has an open roof, and is fitted with open seats designed to hold 243. There are three memorial windows by Lavers and Barraud. One erected by subscription to some choristers who were drowned whilst sea-bathing, July 17, 1868, representing "The Children in the Temple" (St. Matt. xxi, 15), and "Stillling the Tempest" (St. Matt. viii, 26); another, by their parents, to two of the same boys, S. and G. Gilderoy, representing our Lord as blessing little children (St. Mark x, 16), and "In the Temple before the Doctors" (St. Luke ii, 46); the other to Elizabeth Hunt, died July 21, 1867, represents our Saviour as the good Shepherd carrying the lambs in his arms. The architect was Mr. T. H. Wyatt. The builder's contract, including extras, amounted to £1,374:11:6; and other expenses connected with the site of the church and the parsonage, raised this sum to a total of £1,934:8:4.<sup>2</sup>

The National School is held in the old Congregational Chapel, which was sold in 1861 for £150. There is an acre of land adjoining, which was granted by the lord of the manor, and is available for enlarging the school premises.

#### VICARS.

1861.—JAMES, Enoch Rhys, St. David's, Lampeter; v. Llangollen, 1868.

1868.—PRICE, Thomas, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; B.A., 1853; D.

1854; Pr. 1855; curate of Rhug Chapel, 1862-8.

<sup>1</sup> Ecclesiastical Commissioners, £705:14:0; Queen Anne's Bounty, £100, for parsonage house.

<sup>2</sup> The chief contributions towards this have been, Diocesan Church Building Society, £250; Incorporated Church Building Society, £220; Bishop Short, £150; Carey Fund, £100; T. G. Dixon, Esq., £100; and collected by Mrs. Evans, about £130.

## RHUDDLAN.

THIS place, which derives its name ("the red shore" or "river bank") from the "New Red" formation on which it is built, comes into prominent notice in *Domesday*, A.D. 1048, where it is mentioned as the chief place in this district, with its vill of *Bryn* and berewicks, corresponding to some of the present townships, of *Cwybyr*, *Cefndy*, *Brynhedydd*, *Pentre*, *Llewerllyd*, *Dincolyn*, *Disserth*, etc. "Hugo Comes tenet de rege Roelend. Ibi tempore regis Edwardi jacebat Englefield et totum erat wastum. Edwinus Comes tenebat. Quando Hugo Comes recepit, similiter erat wastum. Modo habet in dominio medietatem Castelli, quod Roelend vocatur et caput est hujus terræ. Ibi habet viii. burgenses et medietatem ecclesiæ, et monete et medietatem minerie ferri ubicunque in hoc manerio inventa fuerit et medietatem aque de Cloit et de molinis et piscariis que ibi fient, in eâ scilicet parte fluminis que pertinet ad feudum Comitis, et medietatem forestarum, que non pertinebat ad aliquam villam istius manerii et medietatem thelonei et medietatem ville que vocatur Bren... Ad Bren pertinent he v terre, Cauber, Kevend, Brennehedin, Leuuarlude et dimidia Peintret." Whence also it appears that at this period there were two "medieties" or rectories in the church; of which the one belonged to Earl Hugh, and the other to his lieutenant, Robert of Rhuddlan. In 1093 Earl Hugh appears to have bestowed his mediety on the monks of St. Werburgh's, Chester, to whom he granted "Haurdine and Rueland," adding also "a tenth of Haurdine Colesul and Bissopestred, and a tenth of the fisheries of Rueland." A century and a half later these two moieties were in the hands of the King and his son, inasmuch as Bishop Anian I instituted a clerk in 1252 to one of them, "ad presentationem Henrici Regis"; and in 1254 to the other, "ad presentacionem Edwardi filii Regis."<sup>1</sup> In 1273 either the two portions, medieties, or rectories, had become united, or else one of them had been conferred upon the see, as "porcio R. Rudlan" was leased to the vicar for that and the following year by Bishop Anian II.<sup>2</sup> When Edward I began to rebuild and enlarge the castle, he took certain lands, about six acres and a half in extent, from the church for that purpose, making some recompense for the same to Master Richard Bernard, the parson; and giving, in 1282, some other lands in exchange,<sup>3</sup> apparently the new Cemetery or burial-ground, which he commissioned his chancellor, Robert Bishop of Bath and Wells, to provide and consecrate, "juxta Hospitale extra Rothelanum."<sup>4</sup> Two years later, in 1284, *i. e.* after the fruitless attempt to have the see removed hither from St. Asaph, the King made an exchange, with Bishop Anian, of the advowson

<sup>1</sup> *Llyfr Côch*, 55b.<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, 54a.<sup>3</sup> Pennant's *Tours in Wales*, ii, 124.<sup>4</sup> *Hodiè Spittal. Councils*, i, 540.



of this church for that of Eglwysfach; which the latter, at his request, bestowed upon the abbot and monks of Maenan, lately transferred thither from their old foundation at Aberconway. One moiety of the rectory Bishop Anian appears at once to have appropriated to the Cathedral, since we find his successor, Llewelyn ap Ynyr (de Bromfield), in 1296, confirming the appropriation, and adding to it the other moiety.<sup>1</sup> From which time it counted as a *capella* of the Cathedral, and as such paid to the Bishop, instead of annuals and lactuals, “*sextam partem garbarum feni et oblacionum.*” Its value at this time, according to the *Taxatio* of 1291, was, “*rectoria,*” £8, on which 16s. were paid as tenths; and “*vicaria,*” £2 : 13 : 4, “*non decim.*” In 1535 the “*rectoria*” was returned as appropriate to the Bishop and Prebendaries of the Cathedral, the former receiving £4 : 6 : 8 as sixths, the latter, fourteen in number, including the Canons, 20s. each as their share. “*Vicaria valet in grosso, cum xiiis. vii. d. pro terra glebata, £11 : 13 : 4; unde sexta Ep'o, iiis.; et valet clare, £11 : 10 : 4.*” The recent commutation gave £651 : 17 : 2 to the Dean and Chapter; £71 : 2 : 10 to the Archdeacon of Disserth, *i. e.*, the Bishop of St. Asaph; £6 to the Bishop (of Bangor); £264 : 2 : 10 to the vicar. A Return made in 1853 gave the nett value of the rectorial tithes, after deducting £80 for curate's salary, as £485 : 2 : 7, divisible among the members of the Chapter. The same Return gave those of the vicar at £226 : 2 : 10, besides reserved rents from Dean and Chapter, £10; cottage and garden, £5. There was also a house, built in 1819, and twelve acres of glebe land; making the vicar's income in all about £270 per ann. An Order in Council, 10 June, 1864, added 16 a. 1 r. 17 p. of glebe; and the further improvement of the living out of the rectorial tithes lapsed to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners by the expiration of the lease, is now under their consideration. The £6 paid annually to the Bishop of Bangor are said to have been originally granted to him by Edward I, in order to provide him with wheaten bread,—a delicacy the King had failed to obtain on one of his visits. It is chargeable on Aberkinsey, a portion of which farm in 1730 paid one-fourth tithes to the vicar, and three-fourths to the Bishop.

The parish, including its daughter church of Rhyl, embraces an area of 4,110 acres, divided among ten townships, Crickin (Crugyn), Ysgawen, Pentre, Brynbychan, Brynywal, Cefndy, Brynhedydd, Trellwelyn, Rhydorddwy, and Rhyl, with a population of 4,393. Ecclesiastically, however, this has been considerably diminished by the transfer of a portion to Rhyl, and the formation out of it of that new district, with an area of about 600 acres, and a population of 2,965.

The church (St. Mary's), on the Sunday after whose Nativity, September 8th, the wakes were kept, has recently undergone a thorough

<sup>1</sup> “*Confirmacio donacionis Aniani ecclesie S'e'i Egidii in Kynlleth et medietatis ecclesie de Rudlan, pro eo quod ipsum donacionis scriptum ratione guerre amissum sit; necnon donacio alterius medietatis de Rudlan Ecclesie Cathedrali, per L. Ep'm. dat' 2 Id. Apr. 1296. Consecr. 3'o.*” (*Llyfr Côch*, 138a.)



and effective restoration. It consists, externally, of two equal aisles with a tower at the west end of the northern and principal one, which used to form a conspicuous landmark to vessels out at sea when Rhuddlan was a busy port. Internally the aisles are divided into six bays, and formed by gradations of steps into nave, chancel, and sacra-rium. The south aisle was, until the last century, much shorter than the other, and terminated where the piscina in the south wall shews its altar to have been. The main features of the recent restoration<sup>1</sup> have been the removal of the pews, and the substitution of open seats of oak throughout; lowering the level of the nave, and raising that of the chancel, and furnishing it with choir-seats; repairing the oak roof; scraping the red sandstone pillars,<sup>2</sup> and cleaning them of their many coats of plaster; substituting early Pointed windows for the previous round-headed ones; opening out the fine arch leading into the tower; and substituting, for the tier of pulpit and desks on the middle of the north wall, a prayer-desk in the choir, and a pulpit of Talacre stone with red sandstone panels inlaid with marble designs at the north-east angle of the nave. Two stained windows, by Ward and Hughes, have also been added at the east end, in grateful memory of William Shipley-Conwy of Bodrhyddan, to whose influence the work of restoration was mainly due, but who died before its completion. The chancel window, of five lights, represents in its central compartments the Last Supper, with the Ascension of our Lord above, and on each side the birth and bearing of the cross. That of the south aisle, with peculiar appropriateness, illustrates the seven works of mercy. Beneath each window is a brass plate inscribed, respectively, in English and in Welsh, "To William Shipley-Conwy, from his friends poor and rich."

The churchyard, which was enlarged in 1858, is also being greatly improved and beautified at the expense of General Sir G. Lockwood, K.C.B. The mausoleum of the Bodrhyddan family was erected by "Sir John Conway, Knight, 1637," as appears from the inscription over the entrance leading into it, through the north wall of the church. A large mural monument on the same wall commemorates many members of the family buried here and elsewhere between the years 1788 and 1837. A tablet also, close by, commemorates Dean Shipley, 1826. Other features deserving of notice, from an archaeological point of view, are the very early triplet at the west end of the south aisle; the narrow lancet, and the pointed doorway on the north side (now closed up), coeval probably with the first building of the church; the ambry, beneath the chancel window, the tracery of which is similar in character to those of the Cathedral transepts; several early sepulchral slabs ornamented with floriated crosses of various designs, supposed to have

<sup>1</sup> Carried out under the direction of G. G. Scott, R.A.

<sup>2</sup> These pillars, owing to intramural burials and other causes, had fallen very much out of the perpendicular, as may still be seen near the west end; but they have now been rendered safe and firm.

been transferred hither from the Abbey; and some sepulchral effigies recently discovered, among them being the remaining half of the one built up into the east gable of the south aisle. About the year 1500 there further appears to have been a noted image of our Lord, either here or at the Abbey, "Yr Iesu gwyn o Ruddlan," in honour of which Gruffydd ab Ieuan ab Llywelyn Fychan, the bard and linguist of Llan-nerch, composed one of his *awdlau*.

The Sebright MSS.<sup>1</sup> mention some lands near, called "*Nunneland*" and "*St. Marieland*"; but the consideration of these, as well as the account of the Abbey and the Hospital, must be deferred to a later portion of this work.

The only charity belonging to the parish appears to be a rent-charge of £4 per ann., bought in 1718 with £80 of consolidated charities, and secured on Close-y-Berllan (now part of the Bodrhyddan estate).

The National School was built in 1829, and is supported by subscriptions and Government grant. That for girls and infants, held in a cottage converted to that use, is supported by the Bodrhyddan family and the Government grant. "In 1791 the school was kept in a part of the south aisle of the church, separated off for that purpose," *i. e.*, in the old vestry.

## VICARS.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1306.—Madoc ("pro se et Ief fra-<br>tre suo fidemissor")   | 1630.—OWEN, Bishop <i>in commen-<br/>dam</i>                      |
| 1540.—CONWAY, Robert   | 1633.—PRICE, Elis, A.M.; Preb.<br>Llanfair, 1632                  |
| 1573.—MOSTYN, Henry, v. Whit-<br>ford, 1586  | 1678.—WILLIAMS, Wm.; Canon,<br>1679                               |
| 1597.—VAUGHAN, William, D.D.;<br>Preb. Llannefydd, 1598  | 1686.—EDWARDS, J.   |
| 1598.—CONWAY, Peter  | 1704.—LEWIS, Ellis  |
| 1605.—PARRY, Bishop <i>in commen-<br/>dam</i>  | 1727.—JONES, Robert, Canon,<br>1741                               |
| 1618.—MOSTYN, Simon, A.M.;<br>Preb. Llanfair, 1623   | 1754.—JEFFEREYS, J., vic. choral,<br>1756; r. Llanferras, 1781    |
| 1624.—WILLIAMS, J., A.M.; Preb.<br>Llannefydd, 1660  | 1800.—MAURICE, Robt., r. Llan-<br>bedr, D. C.                     |
| 1625.—KYFFIN, J., r. Llanfihangel-<br>Glyn-Myfr, 1623  | 1819.—JONES, John, M.A.; vic.<br>chor. 1816; r. Llandderfel, 1828 |
| 1828.—WYNNE-EDWARDS, Thos., M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; B.A.,<br>1818; D., 1819; Pr., 1821; vicar choral, 1828. |   |

## RHYL.

At the beginning of the present century Rhyl was but a collection of low sand-banks, only slightly raised above that level of low ground subject to the overflow of tidal or swollen waters, which is implied in its name, *Yr hêl*. Its sudden and rapid rise dates from about 1828. A church was erected in 1835; and a district assigned by Order in

<sup>1</sup> Pennant's *Tours*, ii, p. 131.

Council, dated May 23rd, 1844, and gazetted October 15th. The parish embraces an area of about 600 acres, with a population, in 1861, of 2,965; but now supposed to be about 5,000, with two churches and national and ragged schools.

*Trinity Church* was built in 1835, at a cost of £1,000, on a cruciform plan, from the designs of Mr. Jones of Chester, and was intended for 439 sittings; of which 223 were to be free, in consideration of a grant of £200 from the Church Building Society; a similar sum being also contributed by the Diocesan Society. In 1850 the south transept was extended at a cost of £188 : 19 : 5; and the north transept, at a further cost, in 1852. Further improvements were made in 1869, by way of furnishing it with open seats, and adding a south chancel-aisle, in which an organ has been set up, inscribed with the grateful memento, "Rhôdd Hugh Morgan, Ficer Rhyl, mewn diolchus gôf am garedigrwydd ei gyfeillion, pan ar feddwl ymadael i blwyf Llanrwst. Nadolig, 1867." The only monumental tablet is one erected by parishioners and friends to the Rev. Evan Evans, "Ieuan Glan Geirionydd," for six months incumbent of the parish.



St. Thomas's Church.

*St. Thomas's Church.* The foundation-stone was laid, as appears from the inscription thereon, at the north-east angle of the tower, "by the Hon. Mrs. Rowley of Bodrhyddan, assisted, with masonic formalities, by Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn, M.P., P.G.M., on Whit Monday,



20th May, 1861." The ground-plan consists of chancel, with a south aisle and an organ chamber on the north side; nave with aisles; porch on north side, the principal entrance being under the west window; and tower at north-east angle, the basement of which forms the vestry. The nave, with its north and south aisles, was the first part built, and was opened for divine service in 1862; the chancel followed, July 30, 1867; and the church was finally consecrated in March 1869. The plans have been provided by Mr. G. G. Scott, A.R.A.; and the outlay has been about £13,000.<sup>1</sup> The fittings inside are of pitch-pine, with open roof stained and varnished; the nave-arcading of Bath stone, with marble shafts; the inside dressings of Bath stone, with the outside of Cefn stone, and the intermediate surface of dressed limestone. Many handsome gifts have already been made; but the church is not yet complete, as the chancel is unfurnished. The spire still remains to be added, and the marble shafts and carving of the capitals throughout the church are left to be provided by future benefactors. The special gifts already made embrace a beautiful pulpit of alabaster, well wrought and ornamented with jeweled panels, supported on a capital of Caen stone, and enriched with marble shafts;<sup>2</sup> a handsome font, circular in form, and supported on pillars of green marble with carved capitals; the north porch, the gift of an anonymous contributor, in remembrance of the coming of age of Conwy G. H. Rowley of Bodrhyddan in 1862; the east window, erected by subscription in 1867, in grateful honour of Bishop Short, "*cujus auspiciis auxilioque hæc ædes exstructa est*"; and the organ, by Hill of London, erected by subscription in 1869. The church has also been enriched with many memorial-windows, the work of Ward and Hughes. The east window, of three lights, with geometrical tracery, represents nine events in the life of our Lord, the central subjects being His Agony, Crucifixion, and Ascension; and on either side, respectively,

<sup>1</sup> Towards this sum the following are the contributions of £100 and upwards:

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
The Rt. Rev. Bishop Short	2326	0	0	R. J. Sisson, Esq. -	315	10	0
Anonymous, per R. J. Sisson, Esq. -	774	6	4	James Fletcher, Esq. -	225	5	0
Robt. Wynne, Esq., & his sister, Mrs. Jones, Olinda	628	10	0	Townshend Mainwaring, Esq. -	205	0	0
Rev. Hugh Morgan, vicar	500	3	5	W. Shipley Conwy, Esq.	165	10	0
John Churton, Esq. -	371	5	6	Martin Baldwin, Esq. -	136	15	0
Miss Lambert -	321	0	0	John Sisson, Esq. -	100	0	0
				H. R. Hughes, Esq. -	100	0	0

#### GRANTS AND COLLECTIONS.

Diocesan Church Building Society -	800	0	0	Mr. T. Healing's Fund -	105	12	0
Carey Fund -	400	0	0	Church collections -	897	9	3
Mrs. Morgan's "£1000 Fund" -	1020	2	6	Sunday School ditto -	102	4	5
				Bazaars -	468	0	11
				Christmas trees -	555	14	0

<sup>2</sup> The gift of J. Fletcher, Esq., of Bod-donwen, Rhyl.



the Annunciation, Birth and Baptism, and the Last Supper and His appearances to Mary and to St. Thomas. The east window of the south aisle is to the memory of the Rev. Benj. Winston, formerly vicar of Farmingham, ob. 1866; and of Charles Winston, his son, the eminent writer on ancient glass-painting, ob. 1864. The subjects are the Annunciation to the Shepherds, and St. John Baptist. On the south side, a memorial to the Rev. Ch. Edw. Oakley, ob. 1865, represents the Visitation and the Presentation in the Temple. Next to this, a double window, of four lights, to John Sisson, ob. 1860, "an active promoter of the building of this and the adjacent church," has as its subjects, the Adoration of the Wise Men, the Flight into Egypt, our Saviour in the Temple, and the Good Shepherd. Another window, on the same side, to Mrs. Giles, ob. 1855, represents our Lord as talking to Mary (St. John xi), and blessing little children. The window at the west end of this aisle, to "John Royle and Charlotte his wife," has the Sermon on the Mount, and the Commission to the Apostles; and corresponding to it, in the north aisle, is one to Sarah Sleight and Charlotte Royle, daughters of the above. Subjects, Healing the issue of blood, and the Resurrection. Another window, on the north side, given on the occasion of the consecration of the church, in memory of Joseph and Elizabeth Potts, represents our Lord as the Good Shepherd, and as standing at the door; and next to it, one to "Sarah Foster Butterson, ob. 23 Sept. 1866," has its subjects taken from the raising of Lazarus, and of Jairus' daughter.

The National School was built in 1842, at a cost of £200; and enlarged in 1857, to form three separate schools (boys', girls', and infants'), at a cost of £1,058.

The income of the living, which was returned in 1853 as £120 (arising from pew-rents, £116; and glebe £9, *minus* £5 reserved for repairs), was increased by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, in 1859, by the addition of £35 per ann.; and in 1866 a benefaction of 1,900 yards of land, valued at £665, was met by them with a further grant of £22 : 3 : 4 perpetual annuity. The present value is about £450 a year, and a house erected by subscription, and grant from Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1860.

#### INCUMBENTS.

1836.—OWEN, James Richard, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; r. Llanferras, 1854

1854.—EVANS, Evan, "Ieuan Glan Geirionydd"; author of Welsh hymns, tunes, many Eisteddfod prize poems, especially "Yr Adgyfodiad," Rhuddlan, 1850; editor of "Y Bibl Darluniadol" and "Y Gwladgarwr".

1855.—MORGAN, Hugh, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Deac. 1849; Pr. 1850

## TREMEIRCHION.

TRE-MEIRCHION ("the homestead of Meirchion") has also an earlier name, by which it is still sometimes described, *Dymeirchion*, i. e., the din or hill-fort (the *Din-mersch* of *Domesday*) of Meirchion, who held his court at Llysmeirchion, near Denbigh, and was the ancestor of Marchweithian, the potent head of one of the fifteen tribes of North Wales.

The extent of this parish is 3,849 acres, contained in the five townships of Bryngwyn Esgob, Maenefa, Llan, Graig, and Bachegraig, having a population of 707. At first it formed a portion of the extensive district subjected to the mother church of Llanelwy; and when that was subdivided, and assigned to the care of individual *personæ*, this was appropriated to the Precentor. Thus in the *Taxatio* of 1291 we find it included under that dignity: "Canonia Thome Presbyteri in parochia ipsius Ecclesiæ (i. e. Faenol in Llanelwy) et in capella de *Dynmeychyaw*n et Llangernyw"; and in the *Valor* of 1535, "Rectoria de *Dym'ghon* appropriatur Prebendario de Vaenol et valet £4 : 3 : 4; Vicar' £5, minus decima," 10s. to the King. A "Compositio inter Preb. de Vaenol et Vic. de *Dym'chon* facta per Rob' Ep'um," in 1538, as recorded in *Llyfr Côch*, made an equal division of the tithes between the two; and so the Commutation Returns give £269 : 17 : 0 to the Preb. of Faenol, and the same sum to the vicar, with £6 : 10 : 0 to the parish clerk. A small portion of glebe, 4 a. 3 r., formerly belonging to the rector, has recently been transferred to the vicar by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who have also added £66 per ann. to his income.

The church, dedicated in the name of Corpus Christi, according to Bishop Maddox's Book, but in that of the Holy Trinity, according to Br. Willis, is in the form of a simple parallelogram (with a west door under the bell-gable, and a south porch), to which a north transept has recently been added. In the north wall of the chancel, under a deeply moulded Decorated arch, lies the recumbent effigy of a priest vested in his sacerdotal robes, with the legend, HIC JACET DAVID AP HOVEL AP MADOC, said to be that of the famous "Dafydd Dhu Hir-addug," Canon of St. Asaph, and vicar of this parish, about the middle of the fourteenth century. He is said to have translated into Welsh the Psalms and the "Officium B. Mariæ,"<sup>1</sup> printed in the *Myvyrian Archaeology of Wales* (edit. 1870, pp. 367-377). He was also the author of a poem on "Diwedd dyn a'i gorph," and is supposed to have been the writer of certain "Daroganau" (Predictions) commonly assigned to *Robin Dhu*, who lived a century later. The effigy rests on an altar-tomb, which is divided into panels ornamented with crockets and finials, and bearing emblematic and armorial shields. Another

<sup>1</sup> In this "Office" many of the Psalms are included, and they are peculiarly interesting as probably the earliest known translations from that book into Welsh. (See *Arch. Camb.* 1870, p. 341.)

effigy, in the north window of the transept, represents the mutilated figure of a Crusader, in fluted armour, and is reputed to be that of Sir Robert Pounderling, Constable of Disserth Castle in the twelfth century. An early incised slab forms the sill of the west door, and two others have been built up into the south porch. "The head of the churchyard cross, a work of the fourteenth century, with four canopies covering figures,"<sup>1</sup> was sold by the parochial authorities some years ago, and removed by its purchasers to St. Beuno's College. The triplet east window (by Oliphant) and the two adjacent ones, on the north and south sides respectively, by Ballantyne, are filled with stained glass in memory of Harriet Mary Owen (the sister of Mrs. Hemans, and wife of the vicar of the parish), ob. 14 March, 1858. The east window has for its central subject the Ascension of our Lord, and on either side the rejoicing of Miriam, and the raising of Dorcas, with the figures of Faith, Hope, and Charity beneath. This was the tribute of her many friends, as testified by the inscriptions on brasses, in Welsh and English. Those on the north and south have the works of mercy for their subject. The north window of the transept (by Ballantyne), representing the Adoration, is a memorial to "Caroline, wife of George Falconer Pearson, Madras Staff Corps," who died 1865. There is here a fine copy of the illustrated Bible called the Vinegar Bible,<sup>2</sup> published at Oxford in 1717, and handsomely rebound in 1846.

The churchyard was enlarged in 1864, and the care with which it is tended is in good keeping with the beauty of its situation.

The new school and schoolhouse were built in 1865, at a cost of nearly £800. This was in addition to one built by the vicar in 1835, to replace the old school erected in 1765, which was inconveniently small, and had become very dilapidated.

The charities of the parish, as appears from the list of benefactions on the gallery and the Charity Report, 1837, embrace—

£100 left by Madam Margaret Vaughan, of Bronhaelog, in 1707; the interest to be divided thus, one-sixth to the poor, five-sixths to apprentice a poor child.

£4 per ann. by ditto, chargeable on the parsonage and Coed Tyddyn y Berllan, *alias* Cae Pounderling, to educate twelve poor children.

1 a. 2 r. in Ysceiviog parish (to which about 1½ roods have been added by allotment, under the Ysceiviog Enclosure Act), by Mrs. Elizabeth Williams of Siambr Wen, in 1729, to the poor.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Arch. Camb.* 1863. This is alluded to in Llwyd's *Topographical Notices*, p. 213. "In a building adjoining the churchyard may be seen the carved capital of an old cross, noted in the days of Popery for its miracles, and celebrated in a Welsh poem by a bard of the name of Gruffydd ap Ieuan ap Llewelyn Vychan, who flourished about 1500." He was the owner of Llan-nerch.

<sup>2</sup> So called from the misprint of "vinegar" for "vineyard" in the parable of the vineyard.

<sup>3</sup> An attempt having been made by a tenant named Pownell, about the



£1 5s. per ann., by Edward Mostyn, Gentleman, in 1730, chargeable on Graig tenement, for the poor.

£10 by Caleb Hughes in 1740, the interest to be divided among the poor. (Irrecoverably lost.—Charity Report, 1837.)

£26 by Mrs. Grace Price of Aelwyd Ucha in 1741 (chargeable on a field called Weirglodd Ilmas in Brickhill Farm), the interest to be divided, in bread or otherwise, "among twelve poor people, being such as should commonly attend the divine service of the Church."

£30 by Robert Davies of Coed Robin, farmer, in 1823; reduced by legacy duty to £27; the interest to purchase "winter clothing for poor women of a religious disposition and good conduct."

## VICARS.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1537.—RHYS AP IEUAN or EVAN                                   | santffraid-yn-Mechain, 1660; v.             |
| ..... JONES, Thomas   | Llangollen, 1662                            |
| 1557.—JOHNS, Nicholas   | 1672.—TURBRIDGE, Richd., M.A.,              |
| 1562.—RICHD. AP IEUAN, deprived                               | Preb. Meliden, 1672                         |
| 1585.—WILLIAMS, John  | 1675.—THOMAS, Lewis, v. Nan-                |
| 1619.—EVANS, Richard  | nerch, 1665                                 |
| 1623.—JONES, Richard, B.D., r.                                | 1696.—EVANS, Griffith, v. Llan-             |
| Nannerch; r. Bodvari, 1629                                    | drillo yn Rhos, 1693                        |
| 1629.—MORGAN, John, A.M., v.                                  | 1738.—DANIEL, Edward                        |
| Nannerch, 1617  | 1751.—BROWN, Edward                         |
| 1641.—JONES, Richard, A.M.                                    | 1788.—ELLIS, Richard                        |
| 1660.—HUGHES, William, v. Llan-                               | 1807.—ROBERTS, John, M.A., Jesus            |
| gollen, 1663  | College, Oxford <sup>1</sup> (of Plas Harri |
| 1664.—ROBERTS, Edward, v. Llan-                               | in Llanefydd)                               |
| 1829.—OWEN, William Hicks, M.A., Magdalen College, Cambridge; |   |
| Deacon, 1824; Pr., 1825; vicar choral, 1827; Rural Dean.      |   |

year 1818, to claim possession of this land, involved the parish in an expense of £80, the repayment of which kept this charity for some years in abeyance.

<sup>1</sup> He assisted the Rev. D. Davies of Penegoes, the Rev. E. Evans of Jesus College, and the Rev. E. Hughes of Caerwys, in bringing out the edition of the Welsh Bible printed at Oxford in 1799; edited a new edition of the Homilies in Welsh, in 1817 (Dolgellau Splyg); was editor of the short-lived "Cylchgrawn Cymru"; and in 1825 he published his "Reasons for rejecting the Welsh Orthography that is proposed and attempted to be introduced, with a View of superseding the System that has been established since the Publication of Dr. Davies' Grammar and Dictionary, and Bishop Parry's Edition of the Welsh Bible, and that of 1630" (12mo, Carmarthen, 1825), which called forth Tegid's "Defence of the Reformed System of Welsh Orthography," Oxford, 1829. (*Llyfryddiaeth y Cymru*.)



## THE DEANERY OF CAEDEWEN.<sup>1</sup>

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THIS Rural Deanery, according to the *Taxatio* of A.D. 1291, and the *Valor Eccles.*, Henry VIII, A.D. 1535, comprised the following ten parishes, Aberhafesp, Berriew, Bettws, Llandyssil, Llanllwchaiarn, Llanmerewig, Llanwyddelan, Manafon, Newtown, and Tregynon. Llanllugan was not included in either list, being probably extra-parochial; but from the dissolution of the Nunnery it has formed part of this Deanery.

By an Order in Council, dated 30 July, 1849, the parishes of Kerry and Moughtre, with the chapelry of Dolfor and perpetual curacy of Sarn, were also transferred to it from the Deanery of Melienydd, or Elvel Uwchmynydd, in the diocese of St. David's.

### ABERHAFESP.

This parish, which derives its name from the position of its church, near the *confluence* (aber) of the Haf-hesp (the *summer-dry* brook) and the Hafren<sup>2</sup> (the *summer-flowing* river), consists of two divisions or townships, the upper and the lower; is long and narrow in outline, with the church at one end; and has a population of 486, in an area of 4,568a. 2r. 28 p., of the rateable value of £3,017. At first it was evidently a part of the wide ecclesiastical district which owned Llandinam as the mother church, and was under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Llanbadarn; but on the dissolution of that see, when the rest of the district, embracing the modern parishes of Carno, Llanwnnog, Llandinam, Llangurig, Llanidloes, and Trefeglwys, was transferred to Bangor, Aberhafesp was joined to St. Asaph; still, however, testifying to its original connexion by the payment of the rectorial tithes to the mother church. Thus in the *Taxatio* of 1291 we have "Ecclesia de Aberhafefest, rectoria tax' £1:6:8 et spectat ad Eccl'iam de Llandynam in Ep'tu Bangor'; vicaria, £1:6:8." Some time after this the payment to Llandinam ceased, and the rectory and vicarage were

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<sup>1</sup> This name is variously written Caedewen, Cedewain, Kedeweyn, Kidewen, etc., and is of unascertained derivation and meaning.

<sup>2</sup> Hâf-ren (cf. ῥέω, gwyrenig, vigorous, impetuous) Latinè, Sabrina; Anglicè, Severn.

united ; for the *Valor* of 1535 returns only “Rector’ de Ab’ Hawes, valet in grosso £10 ; clare, £9 : 6 : 8. Inde pro x<sup>ma</sup> parte d’no Regi debet, 18s. 8d.” The present value of the tithes, by the commutation, is £306 : 12 : 6 ;<sup>1</sup> and the rector has also a good house, built in 1828, pleasantly situated, and five acres of glebe land. Patron, the Bishop of St. Asaph.

The church, dedicated, according to Rees, in the name of St. Gwynog, the founder of Llanwnnog Church ;<sup>2</sup> but according to others in that of St. Llonio, the founder of Llandinam ; and in either case receiving a marked corroboration of its early connexion with those churches ; consists of the original nave, of which the south wall was cased externally, and to which a chancel, western tower, buttressed and battlemented, south porch, and north vestry, were added in 1857. At the same time, internally, a gallery was erected at the west end, and pews were added ; the ancient roof was preserved in its integrity, a narrow lancet on the north side was enlarged, and an additional window inserted. All this was effected at an outlay of about £1,100. Further alterations were made in 1866, which, whatever may be thought of the method of proceeding, appear to have been, after the first surprise, generally acquiesced in as improvements. “On a certain Monday in November, 1866, a sufficient number of hands were introduced by the Rector, the gallery was removed, the sky-lights closed, slated, and plastered ; the pew-doors removed, and the pews cut down to one uniform height ; the pulpit, with its first and second story, was lowered and removed ; the font placed in its proper site ; and all was finished by Sunday.” The font is octagonal and plain ; and the Registers are very early, dating back to 1538, the same year as those of Gwaunysgor. In the tower are three ancient bells, and a modern clock with two dials. The Perpendicular east window contains a representation, in stained glass, of the incident of the Canaanitish woman ; and one on the north side has an allegorical design commemorative of Louisa Elizabeth Jane Coleman, ob. 1854. The principal monumental tablets are those in the nave, to the family of Morgan of Aberhafesp Hall ; and in the chancel, to Louisa Proctor, ob. 1857 ; and Lieut.-Gen. Proctor, C.B., ob. 1859, of the same place. Another tablet in the chancel, to the memory of “Richard John Davies, nearly thirty-seven years rector of the parish, relates that he was spared to witness what he had long earnestly desired, the improvement and restoration of this church.” Obiit 1864.

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<sup>1</sup> In 1852 the Earl of Powis having 60 a. 3 r. 20 p. of land in the parish, with a tithe-rent charge upon it of £5 : 16 : 0, and wishing to make it tithe-free, gave in exchange 10 a. 2 r. 22 p. ; and this being valued as worth £28 more than the tithes, Mr. Davies paid over that sum as a benefaction to the living.

<sup>2</sup> Where he is represented, in the chancel window, in his episcopal habits, with mitre and crozier ; and the following inscription underneath, in old English letters, “Sanctus Guinocus, cujus anime propitiatur Deus.”

The School was built in 1838, and rearranged and renovated in 1867; a substantial master's house having been previously added by S. Scott, Esq.

From the Charity Report, 1837, it appears that some bequests, amounting in all to £50, lent on bond, were reduced in 1761, by the failure of the borrower, to £13:11:10½ (the composition money); but that this had increased, in 1810, to £21, which was lent out on a promissory note. Since then it appeared to have been repaid to the parish, as the sum of £1 was annually paid, in the overseers' account, and doled out at Christmas to "those persons who were least on the parish books."

The following "Memoranda" will be interesting from their bearing on early Dissent, and on the Welsh language, in the parish:

1669.—"The principal members are Thomas Fudge, Lewis Turner, and Raynald Wilson, a schoolmaster, *all of Aberhafesp.*" (From Returns under the Conventicle Act, under the head of Llandyssil.)

1710.—"Two families of Anabaptists, and one of Quakers. Two Meeting Houses, one Anabaptist and Presbyterian, the other Quakers'."

1745.—"One third part at least Dissenters, viz. Presbyterians, Anabaptists, Independents, and Methodists. Adults not confirmed, and will not come, having been, as they say, disappointed by y<sup>e</sup> indisposition of y<sup>e</sup> last two bishops." (MS. Bk. Z.)

1748.—"One Welsh sermon every fortnight, and the 2nd Lesson, always in Welsh. After enquiring I took the liberty of recommending Welsh and English duty *entirely* every other Sunday, Welsh being more intelligible and more agreeable to the major part of the congregation." (Rural Dean's Report.)

#### RECTORS.

1537.—RICHARD AP RICE

1556.—ROBERT AP WILLIAM

1574.—JONES, Griffith<sup>1</sup>

1578.—MAURICE, Griffith

1613.—PRICE, Thomas

1614.—JONES, Richard<sup>2</sup>

1623.—FFOULKES, Robert

1628.—HUMPHREYS, Richd., A.M.<sup>3</sup>

1643.—PRICE, Richard<sup>4</sup>

1665.—JONES, Rhys<sup>5</sup>

1689.—MAURICE, Peter, A.M.

1690.—JONES, Edward, D.D.<sup>6</sup>

1690.—THELWALL, Orlando, M.A.<sup>7</sup>

1697.—(OAKLEY, John<sup>8</sup>)

1702.—BABINGTON, Josiah

1705.—MERCER, Richard

1724.—LEWIS, J.

1728.—TENCH, Carter, A.M.

<sup>1</sup> Sinecure rector of Ysceifiog, 1555; Whitford, 1565; rector of Llanmerewig, 1567.

<sup>2</sup> Rector of Llanddulas, 1610; deprived, 1611; vicar of Llansannan, 1613.

<sup>3</sup> Vicar of Corwen, 1624; rector of Llangower, 1626.

<sup>4</sup> Vicar of Bettws-yn-Rhos, 1641.

<sup>5</sup> Vic. Llanfor, 1660.

<sup>6</sup> Bishop of St. Asaph, 1692.

<sup>7</sup> Canon, 1697.

<sup>8</sup> From the proceedings against Bishop Jones it appears that this Oakley was not in holy orders, and that he left the country to avoid the inquiry at the metropolitanical visitation.



1729.—JONES, William

1746.—JONES, Thomas, of Llwy-  
ni

1757.—THORNES, John

1787.—WYTHEN-JONES, Evan<sup>1</sup>1827.—DAVIES, Richd. John, M.A.,  
Trin. Coll. Camb.1864.—TROUGHTON, John Ellis,  
M.A., Corpus Christi College,  
Camb.; Scholar, 1833

1870.—PARKER, Frederick William, M.A., Pembroke College, Oxford ;  
third class in Litt. Hum., and B.A., 1846 ; Deac. and Pr., 1848 ;  
curate of Welshpool, 1848-63 ; P. C., Moughtre, 1863-70.

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### BERRIEW.<sup>2</sup>

THIS is a very extensive parish, divided into the fifteen townships of Berriew, Allt Upper and Lower, Bryncaemeisir, Cil, Cileychwyn, Faenor Ucha and Isa, Ffridd-penywern, Garthmil, Llandinier, Llifior, Brithdir, Penthryn, and Trwst-Llewelyn. It embraces an area of 12,010 a. 10 p., of the assessed rental of £13,200 : 17 : 6; and a population of 2,200.

Its earliest ecclesiastical history is closely connected with St. Beuno, whose stone, "Maen Beuno," still marks the spot where the Gospel was first preached by him in this part, and whose name is further commemorated in the dedication of the church which later converts built in his honour. The earliest actual notice of it occurs in A.D. 1265, when Bishop Anian I appropriated the rectorial tithes to the Abbey of Pool,<sup>3</sup> *i. e.*, Strata Marcella or Ystrad Marchell. Very soon after this it would appear by some means or other to have got transferred to the Priory of Chirbury, for in A.D. 1272 we find bishop Anian II asking Bishop Bretton of Hereford to enjoin the Prior to restore it, together with others, to its earlier owners.<sup>4</sup> Twenty years later, A.D. 1291, the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas gives "Ecclesia de Aberyw, rectoria, £13 : 6 : 8; dec., £1 : 6 : 8; vicaria, £7; dec., 14s."; making no mention of the appropriation or of the rector being "alibi beneficiatus"; but in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1535 we have "rectoria de Berrewe appropriatur Monasterio de Strata Marcella," and returned as let to Nicholas Pursell, of Salop, "pro termino annorum adhuc durante," at a yearly rent of £18. "Vicaria valet clare, £13 : 6 : 8; inde decima Regi, £1 : 6 : 8." On the dissolution the property of Strata Marcella was granted to Rowland Hayward and Thomas

<sup>1</sup> Vicar of Berriew, 1807.

<sup>2</sup> *i. e.* Aber-rhiw, the confluence of the Rhiw and the Severn.

<sup>3</sup> "A Ep'us Assav' concessit Abbati et Conv. de Pola eccl'iam de Berriew, excepta vicaria, vicariique institutione. A'o 1265." (*Llyfr Cŏch.*)

<sup>4</sup> "L'te directe per Anianum Ep'm, dat' 1272, Jo' Ep'o Hereff' rogantes quātus mandet Priori de Chirbury sue dioc' q'd restituat R. Pole, Bettws, et Aberryw, villul' de Kilkewydd qu' prius tenebat." (*Llyfr Cŏch.*)



Dixon, through whom the rectory of Berriew is now inappropriate to Lord Sudeley. Its value, according to the Commutation Returns, is £793; that of the vicarage being £445 : 7 : 6;<sup>1</sup> and there are £12 payable to the parish clerk. In addition to the tithe there are attached to the rectory a glebe house, "the lower rectory," and about thirty acres of valuable land; and to the vicarage also a glebe house (a curious old timbered one, which shows the name of its builder and date of its erection, "T. K. 1616"), and about one acre of glebe land. This vicarage is one of the very few surviving instances of a cure held in plurality; and, with the exception of Oswestry and Knockin, is the only case within this diocese of a living enjoyed by a non-resident incumbent.

The old church, which was pulled down in 1802, consisted of one long body with a chancel aisle or north chapel; and one of the square wooden belfries, so common to Montgomeryshire churches, at the west end.<sup>2</sup> The present edifice is a plain stone building consisting of a large nave with galleries running round the three sides, a small chancel, and a tower and vestry at the west end. It was erected in 1803, to hold six hundred, and is both externally and internally in the style of that period. The principal entrance is under the tower, which has a peal of five bells. An organ (by Gray and Davidson) costing two hundred and fifteen guineas, was presented in 1868 by Mrs. Catherine Buckley-Williames, of Pennant, in memory of her husband. A mural tablet, with medallion portrait by Baily, R.A., commemorates William Owen of Glansevern, ob. 1837; and the east window has been filled with memorial glass (by Hardman) to John Winder Lyon-Winder, ob. 1859. Its central subject is the Transfiguration, said to be copied from a picture by Raffaele at Rome. The other lights are filled by the "Good Samaritan" and "Christ blessing little Children." The Registers date back to 1596, and are in good preservation, except for the interval of the Commonwealth.

In addition to the parish church two school-churches also have been built in outlying parts of the parish, and services are held in them on Sundays throughout the year. The one at Vaenor was built in 1857 by Mr. Lyon-Winder; and the other, at Pantyffridd, in the following year, by subscription, Mrs. Owen of Glansevern giving the site and £100. Both are pretty little buildings with south porch, western bell-gable, crested roof, and triplet east window; and at the Vaenor School a portion is railed off as a sacrarium, with its Communion-table and font. Each building will seat about one hundred persons.

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<sup>1</sup> According to the terrier of 1683 the vicar had tithe-corn and hay of the Cil, Alltisa, Penywern, Penthryn, Vaynor ucha, and Vaynor Isa; three-eighths of the corn of Trustewelin, all the tithe-hay of Garthmil, three-eighths of the tithe-corn of Dolygaer, £5 for demesnes of Vaynor ucha and isa, three-eighths of wool and lamb, one half Easter dues, and a noble besides from the rector." (MS. Z.)

<sup>2</sup> An illustration of it was given in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for July 1800.

*The Free School.*—This school was founded by Humphrey Jones, Esq., of Garthmill, who in 1652 left by will a mortgage of £400 (which sum, if the mortgage was redeemed, was to be invested in lands) for finding and maintaining a free school in this parish. The mortgage having been redeemed, the £400, together with £50 of poor's charity (the legacy of Rees Evans of Cefn Gwernfa), were invested by the trustees, in 1754, in the purchase of Penarth Farm, in Llanfair, then containing 102 a. 2 r. 9 p.; but subsequently increased, by an allotment of 43 a. 1 r. 7 p., under an Inclosure Act, to 145 a. 3 r. 16 p., the rental of which was to be assigned to the school and the poor in the proportions of the purchase-money. A school-house was erected by subscription in 1756; and this having fallen into decay, and some irregularities having arisen in the management of the trust, a petition to the Master of the Rolls was sent by some of the parishioners in 1816, praying for a new scheme of management and the erection of a new and suitable school-house. A scheme was accordingly issued, and approved of by an Order in Council bearing date 29 March, 1819, which provided for the better regulation of the school, and the proper disposal of the funds of the charity, as well as the erection of a new school-house. The scheme, as given on p. 300 of the Charity Report 1837, ruled, among other things, "that the school-house, buildings, and appurtenances, which were to be erected, should be for ever thereafter used as a charity school for teaching and instructing such a number of the children of the parish of Berriew in the holy Protestant religion, according to the doctrines and forms of the Church of England, and in useful learning, as the yearly rents, interest, and produce of the real and personal estates belonging to the said charity would from time to time allow, and should be called "Berriew Free School." The school and school-house then built is a substantial stone building, and comprises ten rooms, besides a large and commodious school-room, over which is a girls' school-room. The costs incurred on account of the scheme amounted to some £322:18:2 in all; and the new school cost in addition, £1,581:2:9. Towards this there were in hand £657:19:9 of the charity money; £312:6:0 were added by subscription; and £100, Walmsley's charity, left in the hands of Mr. Owen of Glansevern, to be applied at his discretion; £209:17:7 were borrowed from Mrs. Hannah Lloyd's charity (in which Castle Caereinion, Berriew, and Forden, had each a share); and the rest from other sources, leaving the funds for many years in debt. The present income is £90 per ann.; of which £10 are spent upon the repairs of the farm and the school-house, and the other £80 make up the master's salary.

Other charities belonging to the parish, as appears from the official report and the church lists, are :

Ann. Val.

1652.—JONES, Humphrey, Esq., Garthmill, above mentioned, £200,

lately secured on the Forden House of Industry, for appren-

ticing poor boys - - - - - £8 0 0

1668.—EDWARDS, Edward, rent-charge on Rhiewport, for coats - 3 0 0

		Ann. Va l		
No date.—	REES, Oliver, rent-charge on Penrhowrim, for waistcoats	£1	0	0
„ „	DEVEREUX, Bridget, tenement in Vaenor ucha, let at £6 per ann., for white bread and the poor	-	-	8 0 0
„ „	THOMAS, Morris, rent-charge on Glydirglydd for the poor	-	-	0 10 0
1692.—	LLOYD, Mrs. Hannah, a share in moneys invested in Glyn Farm, £6:5:7 per ann.; and interest of money arising from sale of timber, invested in £3½ per Cents., £4:6:10. Apprentice Fund	-	-	10 12 5
1707.—	MORRIS, Ann, £50, chargeable on Peace Office, for the poor	2	0	0
1721.—	CORBET, Mrs. Margaret, tenement called the Cross Lane, to the poor	-	-	3 0 0
„	JONES, Rees, rent-charge of £42 on Garthmill Hall estate, to the poor	-	-	2 2 0
„	HEREFORD, Lord Viscount, £50 on Turnpike Trust, the poor	2	10	0
„	HIGGINS, Mrs. Ann, £20, ditto	-	-	0 10 0

*Lost Charities.*—TALBOT, George, 1678. Rent-charge of £1 10s. on Penyffridd. No deeds.—OLIVER, Mrs. Catherine, £10, said to be charged on Kenfas and Erw-Góch in Cil. No records.—TUDOR's. Interest of £30.

## VICARS.

1537.—	GRIFFITH, Maurice, B.D. <sup>1</sup>	1680.—	GWYN, John
„	Dow, John	1686.—	EVANS, John, Canon, 1681
1562.—	GRIFFITH AB OWEN.	1711.—	MORRIS, Richard
1608.—	KYFFIN, Thomas, Canon	1719.—	GRIFFITH, Maurice
1622.—	ROBERTS, William, B.D. <sup>2</sup>	1730.—	SKYE, John <sup>4</sup>
1624.—	PRICE, John, B.D.	1734.—	OWEN, Owen, B.A.
1643.—	LLOYD, Thomas, A.M., deprived	1753.—	LLOYD, Samuel
1661.—	JONES, Roger, r. Montgometry	1764.—	PRICE, Edward
1664.—	PUGH, Thomas <sup>3</sup>	1793.—	BROWN, William <sup>5</sup>
		1794.—	JONES, Edward <sup>6</sup>
		1807.—	WYTHEN-JONES, Evan <sup>7</sup>
1827.—	LUXMOORE, John, M.A., Pembroke College, Cambridge; B.A., 1825; Deacon, 1825; Pr., 1826; vic. Berriew, 1827; and rect. Llanymynech, 1829.		

<sup>1</sup> Archdeacon of Rochester; Chancellor of the Diocese of St. Asaph, 1546; Bishop of Rochester, 1554.

<sup>2</sup> Fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge; Sub-Dean of Wells, 1629; Bishop of Bangor, 1637.

<sup>3</sup> Prebendary of Meifod, 1678.

<sup>4</sup> Head Master of Oswestry School, 1733; vicar of Llansilin, 1755.

<sup>5</sup> Prebendary of Meifod, 1779.

<sup>6</sup> R. Garthbeibio, 1769.

<sup>7</sup> R. Aberhafesp, 1787.



## BETTWS.

THIS parish, which is called "Plwyf y Cedwg"<sup>1</sup> in the *Myfyrian Archæology*, consists of four townships, Dolforwyn, Garthgelyn, Llaneithin, and Ucheldre, with an area of 5,306 acres, of the rateable value of £4,299, and a population of 730. Some time before the year 1272 it became appropriated to the Abbey of Ystrad Marchell (Strata Marcella); and in the *Taxatio* of 1291, "Ecclesia de Bethys taxatur, rectoria, £3; dec., 6s. (rector est beneficiatus alibi); vicaria, £2, non decimat." In the *Valor* of 1535 the "rectoria" is returned as "appropriat' Monasterio de Strata Marcella, et valet clarè ad firmam iiii£ per ann., et sic dimittitur Thome ap Iev'n Lloide ad terminum annorum nondum finit'. Vicaria valet clarè £10, minus £1 dec. Regi." After the Dissolution the rectorial tithes were granted, like those of its neighbour, Berriew, to Rowland Hayward and Thomas Dixon, from whom they have descended to their present impropiator, Lord Sudeley, their commuted value being £230 5s. The vicarial tithes were commuted at the same sum; and £8 were assigned to the parish clerk in lieu of the "bell-sheaf" ("ysgub y glôch"), being one sheaf of wheat from each field, to which he was immemorially entitled. The vicar has, moreover, a good house and, including it and the garden, 4 a. 1 r. of glebe. The patronage, which formerly belonged to the Bishop of St. Asaph, was transferred by the recent Act to the Bishop of Llandaff, by whom it has subsequently been given to the Lord Chancellor in exchange for one in his own diocese.

The church (St. Beuno's<sup>2</sup>), which has been well and handsomely restored, consists of a single body divided, by gradations in the floor, into nave, choir, and sacarium, with a vestry on the north, and a western tower surmounted by a picturesque belfry. The roof is an open one, of oak, with plain principals but foliated panels, and the nave is open-seated. The chancel is raised above the nave by four steps which are faced with the text of the apostolic blessing, II Cor.

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<sup>1</sup> Both the names "Bettws" and "Cedwg" are of uncertain meaning. The former is variously interpreted as "a warm, sunny spot midway between a valley and a hill," descriptive of its situation; or "the Birches," from the Welsh word *bedwen*, pl. *bedw*; or a place connected with an abbey or religious house, from the Latin *abbas*, *abbatis*. The latter, some prevailing plant of the locality, either *cedwgwy*, a sort of water-mustard; or *ced-y-waun*, the coarse, rough herbage of the common, which may have given its name to the whole district, Cedywaun, Kedewen, or Caedewen.

<sup>2</sup> He is said to have founded this church as a cell to Berriew; and this relationship of the two churches would account for their common appropriation and subsequent fortunes. For an account of him see Butler's *Lives of the Saints*, Cyff Beuno, etc.



xiii, 14; and in a similar manner the text, "I am the Truth and the Life," is inserted in the step of the sacarium. The font, which is heptagonal in form, with panels of foliated circles, is a renovation of the old one which was found in a neighbouring garden. The eagle-lectern is of oak. In the restoration, which was completed in 1868, the east wall, buttresses, vestry, seven windows, steps, and coping, were built in stone; the roof slated, restored, and completed in oak; doors, screen, seats, desks, rails, and altar-table, made of the same material; the walls stuccoed, the floor paved with encaustic tiles, a warming apparatus added, and the western arch into the tower at the same time discovered and opened out.<sup>1</sup>

Among the memorials which the church contains, two are historically valuable as recording the restorations which two of its vicars have at different times done so much to effect. The first is an inlaid brass lately transferred to the west wall from the north of the chancel, to which (according to Pennant<sup>2</sup>), it had still earlier been removed "from a great slab of oak then remaining" (*i. e.* in 1780) "in its place in the floor." It is in memory of John ap Meredith of Powys, a vicar of the parish, during whose incumbency, and mainly at whose expense, the tower was built and other improvements made, and represents him in his sacerdotal vestments.<sup>3</sup> The other, also a brass, inserted at the back of a credence-niche in the chancel wall, is to the memory of an only son, Henry Richard Marshall, ob. 1867: "Parentes ejus non sine spe mœrentes hanc Fenestellam ponendam et alia bona opera in hac æde restituenda, facienda, curaverunt, A.D. 1868." The east window, a Perpendicular of five lights, is filled with memorial glass, by Wailes, to Catherine Frances Buckley-Williames, an only child, ob. 1862; and John Williames Buckley-Williams, ob. 1866. Its subjects are,—in the centre, the Ascension; and on either side, the Adoration and the Presentation in the Temple, and Our Lord raising Jairus' daughter, and Blessing little children. Some windows on the south side are filled in with some fragments of stained glass from Glastonbury Abbey and other Somersetshire churches.

In addition to the parish church, services are also held in the new School-Church at Dolforwyn, built by subscription, in 1855, on a plot of ground given by the Earl of Powis. The National School was also built by subscription, in 1852, on ground given by the Rev. E. P. Owen.

<sup>1</sup> The cost of this restoration was £1,102 : 18 : 10, towards which the chief contributions were,—Lord Sudeley (in addition to the oak timber), £160; P. Buckley-Williames, £100; Bishop Short, £80; Bishop Carey's Fund, £75; and Rev. H. J. Marshall, vicar, £400.

<sup>2</sup> *Tours in Wales*, ed. 1810, vol. iii, 198.

<sup>3</sup> The inscription is as follows: "Orate pro anima Johannis ap Meredyth de Powisiâ quondam vicarii hujus ecclesiæ de Bettws; in cujus tempore ædificatum est campanile: ibidem sicut emptæ sunt tres campanæ et facta sunt in dicta ecclesia multa alia bona opera: ipso vicario pro posse auxiliante. Cujus animæ propitiatur Deus. Amen. Dat' ipso vivente A.D. 1531."

*Charities.* 1709.—ARTHUR WEAVER, Esq., an almshouse and £10 p. a., payable out of the tithes of Tregynon, for apprenticing poor children and employing poor persons of either this or Tregynon parish. Of this, £6 are given to the poor, and £4 to the almshouses.

N. d.—ARTHUR BLANEY, Esq., £3 3s. p. a. for the second poor, *i. e.* those not in receipt of weekly pay.

N. d.—EDWARD GUEST, interest of £100 to the minister for the time being. Ditto to the poor, at the discretion of vicar and churchwardens.

N. d.—RICHARD BLANEY, £26 to the poor, to be distributed at Easter.

N. d.—EDWARD LLOYD of Aberbechan, a moiety of £2 chargeable on Pentre-parog, in Meifod parish, which he is said to have directed to be equally divided between the poor of this parish and Llanllwchaiarn; but which was really a bequest of Mrs. Mytton of Pontscowryd, held by him in trust, to the poor of Llanllwchaiarn. The owner of the estate in 1837 was the Rev. K. F. Saunders, who continued the payment to the two parishes equally.

## VICARS.

JOHN AP MEREDYTH before 1531.	1666.—PARRY, Henry
“Quondam vicarius.”	1696.—WILLIAMS, Thomas
1536.—SAWER, Roger	1735.—OWEN, Thomas, M.A. <sup>1</sup>
1537.—JOHN AP MEREDYTH	1760.—PRICE, J.
1540.—MAURICE AB OWEN	1793.—PARRY, Edward <sup>2</sup>
1579.—JOHN JONES, vic. chor. 1582	1814.—CLEAVER, William, M.A. <sup>3</sup>
1626.—LLOYD, Humphrey	..... BARNARD, John
1626.—LLOYD, Samuel, A.M.	1817.—PRYCE, John <sup>4</sup>
1631.—PARRY, Griffith	1837.—BUTLER, Henry, M.A. <sup>5</sup>
(Jones, Gabriel, ejected in 1662)	1850.—DAWKINS, Richard, M.A., <sup>6</sup> St. Catherine's Coll., Camb.
1854.—MARSHALL, Henry James, M.A., of Corpus Christi College, Oxford; Deac., 1841; Pr., 1842; vic. West Zoyland, 1846.	

## KERRY.

KERRY,<sup>7</sup> which originally embraced Moughtre also within its district, is still a parish of great extent, about thirteen miles in length and from three to five in breadth, containing an area of no less than 21,280 acres (of which 10,000 were enclosed from the mountain waste,

<sup>1</sup> Master of the school at Berriew.

<sup>2</sup> Rector of Caerwys, 1814.

<sup>3</sup> Preb. of Faenol, 1809.

<sup>4</sup> P.C. Tregynon.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llandysilio, 1850.

<sup>6</sup> Vic. West Zoyland, dioc. Bath and Wells, in exchange with his successor, 1854.

<sup>7</sup> This name is variously derived from *caerau*, “encampments,” with which the district is studded, and on one of which the vicarage is situated, and

and allotted in 1797), of the rateable value of £15,231, with a population of 2,075. The townships are nineteen in number, and all of them bear Welsh names, though the language itself has completely died out of the parish. They are Gartheilin,<sup>1</sup> Graig,<sup>2</sup> Wig-Dolfor,<sup>3</sup> Gwernesgob,<sup>4</sup> Goetre,<sup>5</sup> Gwenthrew,<sup>6</sup> Cefn-y-beren,<sup>7</sup> Bahailon,<sup>8</sup> Gwern-ygo,<sup>9</sup> Caliber ucha,<sup>10</sup> Caliber isa,<sup>11</sup> Trellan,<sup>12</sup> Cefn-y-mynach,<sup>13</sup> Cil-rhew,<sup>14</sup> Bryn Llywarch,<sup>15</sup> Cloddiau,<sup>16</sup> Maenllwyd,<sup>17</sup> Penygelli,<sup>18</sup> and Trefor and Ffin.<sup>19</sup> Of these, 5 to 11 inclusive, with an area of 6,055 acres, of the rateable value of £4,741, have been formed into the ecclesiastical district of Sarn; and the first three, with part of Gwernesgob, embracing an area of nearly 6,000 acres, have also been provided for by the chapel of ease at Dolfor.

From the interesting account of the consecration of the church given by Giraldus Cambrensis, already alluded to,<sup>20</sup> we gain some valuable hints as to the early ecclesiastical history of the parish. Like some others of the parishes in this deanery, and probably all the district between the Severn and the Wye, Kerry appears at one time to have formed a part of the diocese of Llanbadarn; and afterwards to have been merged in that of St. David's, to which it had belonged for some three hundred years before the time of the disputed consecration. The chieftains Einion Clyd and Cadwallon, at whose invitation Bishop Adam had come, had both taken part, under Owen Gwynedd, in the victorious battle of Crogen, against Henry I, and were both of them put treacherously to death by the Norman invaders a few years after this event;<sup>21</sup> whence we infer that the Norman lords of Montgomery, in whose march it lay, began soon after this to usurp this territory, and to exercise a strong influence. Previously the advowson belonged to the Prince of Wales; but in 1246 Henry de Breton was

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derives its name, "The Moat," therefrom;—*ceri*, "the mountain ash," which is said to have flourished luxuriously in these parts;—and from the name of a chieftain, *Ceri Hir Llyngwyn*, whose patrimony is said to have lain here. The second of these derivations seems most in accordance with the genius of Welsh topology. For a topographical account of this parish, see the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, Part vi, 1870.

<sup>1</sup> Heilyn's fort.

<sup>2</sup> The rock.

<sup>3</sup> Dolfor Grove.

<sup>4</sup> The bishop's meadow.

<sup>5</sup> The woodland.

<sup>6</sup> The frosty wind.

<sup>7</sup> The ridge of the hill-spur,—*beren*, or *berain*, "the shank," standing to *esgair*, "the leg," in the relation of a short spur to a long mountain reach.

<sup>8</sup> The fertile nook ("y fach faethlon").

<sup>9</sup> The smith's ("gôf") meadow, or the cuckoo's ("gôg") alder grove.

<sup>10</sup> The field of the upper path.

<sup>11</sup> And that of the lower path, unless "Liber" be a proper name.

<sup>12</sup> The church township.

<sup>13</sup> The monk's ridge.

<sup>14</sup> The icy corner.

<sup>15</sup> Llywarch's hill.

<sup>16</sup> The dykes.

<sup>17</sup> Holy stone.

<sup>18</sup> The top of the hazel grove.

<sup>19</sup> The large and boundary township.

<sup>20</sup> *Suprà*, p. 37, and Br. Willis, ii, Append. ii, p. 12.

<sup>21</sup> *Montgomeryshire Collections*, i, 238-9.



presented to the church "Sancti Michaelis de Kery" by the King, who claimed it as King of England by virtue of conquest.<sup>1</sup> At the time of the consecration mentioned above, the church was collegiate (in accordance with the usual custom of the early Welsh churches), for we read of the "persona ecclesie" and "clerici duo participes ecclesie"; but it seems about this time to have ceased to be so, and in the *Taxatio* of 1291 it is simply described as "Eccl'ia de Kery," and taxed at £20, "decima" £2, without any notice of portionists or collegiate members. Some time, however, between 1291 and 1535 the rectory had become appropriate to the Bishop of St. David's, for in the *Valor* of Henry VIII it is returned among the "Ecclesie ad dignitatem Episcopalem Episcopi Menevensis pertinentes," and as let at £20 per ann.; the vicarage being worth £17:8:4, minus tenths, £1:14:10.

From the same source we learn that the grange of Gwernygo, belonging to the Abbey of Cwmhir,<sup>2</sup> was valued at the annual rent of £8 8s., though at that particular time it was held under an unexpired mortgage of ten years by one John ap Robert, and no rent received for it. This custom of anticipating the income of the Church by granting beneficial leases, seems to have taken a wider hold here, for "upon July 9th, 1637, the King (Charles I) commanded the Bishop of St. David's, that neither he nor his successors should renew the leases of the rectories of Kerry and Glaswcm, then ready to expire, but hold them in demesne."<sup>3</sup> How long this rule was observed does not appear, but it was clearly contravened by Bishop Burgess, who during his tenure of the see "granted to a person connected with him a lease to commence after the expiration of an existing lease; so that on his translation to Salisbury, this new lease being assigned to him, he (the Bishop of Salisbury) became the lessee of these tithes of the bishopric of St. David's."<sup>4</sup>

The tithes were commuted, in 1840, at £850, to the Bishop of St. David's (now in the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners), £10 to the parish clerk,<sup>5</sup> and £550 to the vicar, who has also an ex-

<sup>1</sup> "Henricus de Bretun habet literas de presentatione ad ecclesiam Sancti Michaelis de Kery vacantem et ad donationem Regis spectantem, ratione conquestus Regis de terris que fuerunt L. quondam Principis Norwallie, in Sutwallia et diriguntur Episcopo Menevensi," etc.—Prynne's *Records*, iii, 104, in *Councils*, i, 473.

<sup>2</sup> Among the grants confirmed to the abbot and monks of Cwmhir, 2 Edw. I (i. e. A.D. 1318), were "Gwerenegofer," "Baghewerith," part of "Keltibeir" and Gwenriu, Pebblewyth, "Bagwethlon," and the commonage of pasture throughout the whole of Melenith and Kerry, conferred upon them by Meredith ap Maelgwn, the grandson of the abovenamed Einion Clyd, the founder of Abbey Cwmhir and rebuilder of Kerry Church.—*Arch. Camb.*, 1849, p. 257.

<sup>3</sup> Manby's *St. David's*, p. 160.

<sup>4</sup> Johnes' *Essay*, p. 121.

<sup>5</sup> This was in consideration of the "bell-sheaf" (*ysgub y glôch*), an immemorial acknowledgment of his services in summoning the parishioners to church.



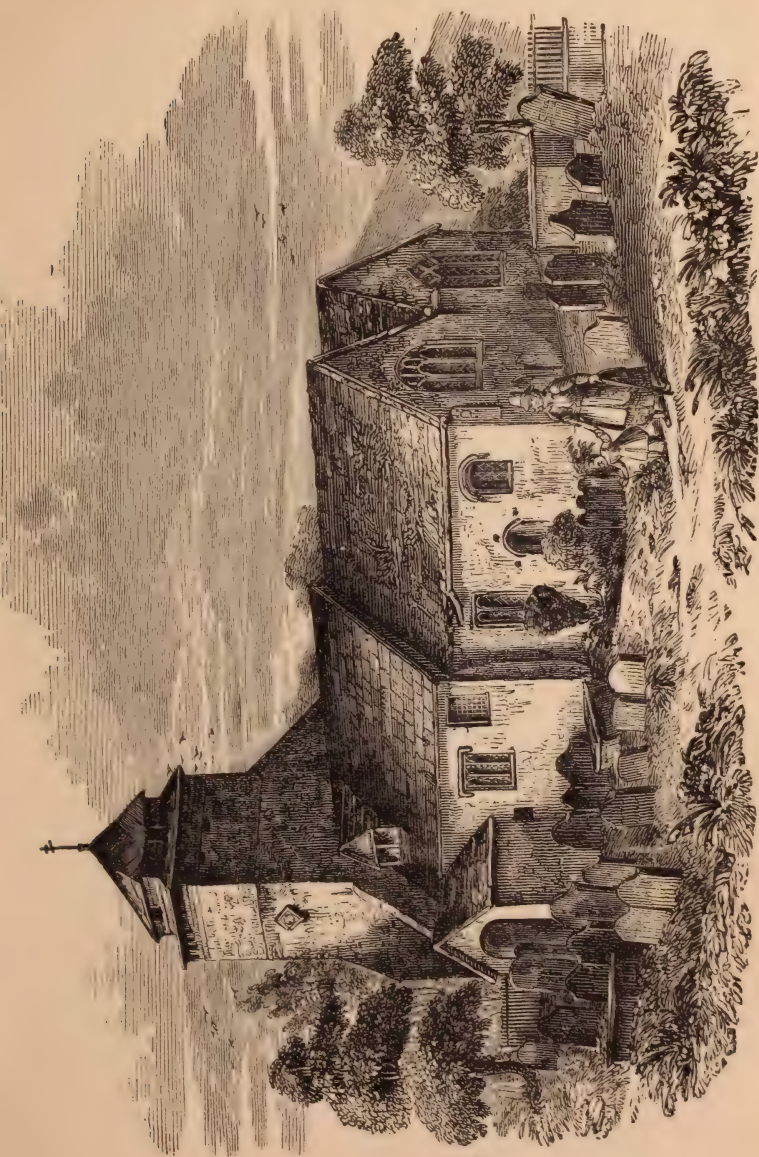
cellent house and ninety-nine acres of glebe. This patronage is in the hands of the Bishop of St. David's.

*The Church.*<sup>1</sup>—Giraldus' interesting account of the consecration fixes the date of the present edifice, or at least the earliest portion of it, in A.D. 1176, whilst its own features supply a sufficiently accurate index to its after history. The four Norman pillars that divide the western portion of the nave from the north aisle, probably mark the extent as well as indicate the form of an earlier wooden church, which the one dedicated by Giraldus had superseded, to which a chancel was subsequently added, and the north aisle correspondingly prolonged; for the dividing pillars are of later character, and the piscinæ of Early English date. Of the Perpendicular period, again, we have the panelled and foliated roof of the nave (that of the chancel and north aisle is concealed by the ceiling), and the handsome Font, which has its panels ornamented with the emblems of the Passion. The massive western tower, surmounted by a wooden belfry in two stories, is probably the same that existed in 1176; and the three bells which it holds may still represent the peal that contributed so materially to settle the dispute which he describes when, "*simul omnes trino intervallo*," they tolled out their solemn and awful clang. They may represent them; but they have a tale of their own to tell, for they, too, bespeak a struggle of long duration, and of sad and serious consequences, but at that time happily closed; for they bear the date of A.D. 1679, and in their inscriptions breathe the prayer, "Prosperity to the Church of England," and "God save His Church." The priest's door and one on the north side still retain their strong and primitive bolts; and another interesting memento of the past is the chained Bible at the west end of the north aisle, now used as the vestry. A window on the south side shews the date 1613, and an inscription elsewhere states the church to have been beautified in 1714. Its beauty, however, can hardly be said to have survived to the present time; for in 1853 it was reported to be in a very dilapidated condition, and recommended to be pulled down. A large gallery at the west end projects some twenty-six feet into the nave, and a small recess has been constructed in the north wall for the organ.

Three monuments in the church hand down to posterity the memory of as many benefactors connected with this parish. One, erected in 1818 by Bishop Burgess, in honour of "Giraldus de Barri, commonly called Giraldus Cambrensis, ..... to whose judicious and intrepid conduct in his capacity as Archdeacon, the see of St. David's is indebted for the ancient preservation and present possession of the parish of Kerry, with the rights, emoluments, and privileges thereto belonging." What would the intrepid Archdeacon have said had he known that the jurisdiction for which he so stoutly contended would be transferred

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<sup>1</sup> For the accompanying illustration I am indebted to the courtesy of the Editor of the *Leisure Hour*, in which an account is given of this church, with the illustration which appeared originally in *The Surplice* for 1846.



KERRY CHURCH.



after all, without dispute or opposition, from the see of St. David's to one of Adam's successors? Another<sup>1</sup> commemorates Richard Jones, who was born at Blackhall, the munificent founder of the Blackhall Institution, who died in 1788, and whose bequests included three several sums of £1,000 each in the 3, 4, and 5 per cent. Consolidated Bank Annuities; the interest of which was to be divided annually in victualling, clothing, and educating poor children, and apprenticing poor boys of the parish; and also £700, 3 per Cents., for supporting a Sunday school, called "The Kerry Charity Sunday School on the Blackhall Foundation." The other monument records the bequest of £300 by Mrs. Christian Carless, daughter of a former vicar, the "interest to be dispensed yearly in useful clothing to the poorest and oldest people of the parish." The other principal monuments are some on the south wall, to the Herberts and Longs of Dolforgan. John Herbert, ob. 1807,—a female mourning over a broken Corinthian column (G. Lewis, sc.); John Owen Herbert, 1824; Harriet Avarina Brunetta Long, heiress of the above, ob. 23 Jan. 1847, ætat. twenty-three years; and Walter Long, jun., her husband, ob. 17 Apr. 1847, ætat. twenty-four.

The principal charities are those of the schools on the Blackhall foundation. There was a school here, indeed, long before, as is evident from the benefactions made towards it; but the present institution owes its prosperity to the liberal bequests of Mr. Jones.

	Total.		Annual.
In 1718, JONES, John, of Blackhall, gave £5, secured on Blackhall	£0	5	0
„ 1721, LLOYD, James . . .	5	} The Red House	0 10 0
LLOYD, Richard, brother	5		
HUMPHREYS, Evan . . .	10	Mary Morris, tenant	0 10 0
„ 1720, WILLIAMS, Evan . . .	10	} . . .	1 10 0
„ 1723, EDWARDS, Matthew . . .	20		
Rectorial tithes . . .	.	.	5 0 0
„ 1823, PUGH, William, Brynlllywarch	100	.	5 0 0
„ 1785, JONES, Richard, Esq., Greenwich, Blackhall Institute, £1000 (5 per cents.); 1786, £1,000 (3 per cents.); 1787, £1,000 (4 per cents.) Sunday School, 1788, £700 (3 per cents.)			

The old school, a large brick building, was enlarged in 1817-18 at the expense of the charity; but in 1869 handsome new schools for boys and girls were erected on a site given by the vicar, at a cost of more than £1,600, of which about £1,170 were contributed by John Naylor, Esq., of Brynlllywarch, the founder of the beautiful new church at Leighton.

The benefactions to the poor are also numerous, and embrace the following particulars:

<sup>1</sup> This monument cost above £500, the sum set aside in the testator's will for the purpose, the surplus being raised by subscription.



- 1650.—PHILLY, John, rent-charge of £1 10s. on the New House.  
 1652.—LEWIS, Hugh, 40s. each to Kerry and Llandyssil, chargeable on Caetyllog and Pantgwyn.  
 1661.—SHARRET, Allen, a tenement in Caliber, now represented only by an enclosure of about three acres in Maenllwyd.  
 1671.—PAYNE, Rev. Richard, vicar, £10.  
 1687.—EVANS, J., a rent-charge of £2 on Penaran in Brynllwarch.  
 — EDWARDS, Elizabeth, 10s. per annum.  
 1688.—JONES, Richard, of Cefn-Mynach, £5.  
 1696.—HERBERT, Richard, Esq., an annual charge of £2.  
 1708.—LLOYD, Evan, "Ty Edward y Taliwr."  
 1736.—LLOYD, E., Esq., six coats yearly charged on Old Hall.  
 — LLOYD, James, Esq., £5 charged on Red House Farm.  
 1812.—SHENTON, — (father), £60, mortgage on Brynmawr; SHENTON, Edward (son) £80, ditto.  
 — CARLESS, Mrs. Christian, £300.

*Consolidated Charities.*—EDWARDS, Mary, £17; COMPTON, John, interest of money of £8; JONES, Richard, £5; EDWARDS, Mary, £10; ALLEN, Thomas, £10. Total, £50.

*Lost Charities.*—HAYMAN, widow, 5s. per ann.; HUGHES, John, £1 per ann.; EVAN ap Edward, £3; Lloyd, Evan, 5s. p. a.; JONES, John, £1 p. a. to schoolmaster; RICHARD ap Mathew, £5; HOWEL, Thomas, £5; MINTON, Jane, £10; EDWARDS, May, £1; EDWARDS, John, £20, and £10 to Moughtre.

## VICARS.

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1246.—Henricus de Breton <sup>1</sup> | 1732.—BROWN, Littleton, M.A.              |
| 1532.—Richard ap Rice <sup>2</sup>    | 1749.—ONSLow, Barrett                     |
| 1670.—PAYNE, Richard                  | 1758.—THOMAS, Joshua <sup>4</sup>         |
| 1672.—LUCY, Spencer                   | 1759.—CARLESS, Joseph                     |
| 1697.—DAVIES, John, D.D. <sup>3</sup> | 1807.—JENKINS, John                       |
| — MORRIS, Matthew                     | 1830.—MONRO, Horace                       |
| 1703.—WILLIAMS, Tobias                | 1836.—OLLIVANT, Alfred, D.D. <sup>5</sup> |
- 1846.—MORGAN, William, B.D., Emmanuel Coll., Camb.; B.D. 1826; Deacon, 1812; Pr. 1813; vic. Llandingat with Llanfair-ar-y-bryn, 1826-46.

<sup>1</sup> *Councils*, i, 473.

<sup>2</sup> *Montgomeryshire Collections*, v, 368.

<sup>3</sup> Precentor of St. David's, and Prebendary of Hereford and of St. Asaph, p. 247.

<sup>4</sup> Vicar of Llanbister.

<sup>5</sup> Trin. Coll., Cambridge; Craven Scholar, 1820; Senior Chancellor's Medalist, sixth Wrangler, and B.A., 1821; Senior Member's Prizeman, 1822-23; Tyrwhitt's Hebrew Scholar, 1822; Fellow of Trin. Coll., Vice-Principal of St. David's College, Lampeter, 1827-43; Reg. Prof. of Divinity, Cambridge, 1843-50; Bishop of Llandaff, 1849. Author of Sermons, Charges, etc.

## ST. PAUL'S, DOLFOR.

THIS is a chapel of ease to the mother church of Kerry, from which it is distant about four miles, being situate on the high road leading from Newtown to Llandrindod Wells, and erected for the accommodation of the townships of Dolfor, Wig, Gartheilin, Graig, and part of Gwernesgob. It is built in the Early English style of the thirteenth century, and consists of nave, south porch, and western bell-gable, with sittings for one hundred and eighty. The cost was above £1,000. It was consecrated on the 15th August, 1851, and is separately endowed with £50 from the vicarial tithes.

A school-house and teacher's residence were added in 1866, at a cost of £663 : 16 : 6, on land given by W. B. Pugh, Esq., who added a subscription of £50, and R. P. Long, Esq., £100.

## CURATES.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1851.—GAMMELL, James Stewart,<br>M.A., Jesus Coll., Camb.; P. C.<br>Outwood, dioc. Ripon, 1860 | 1859.—JONES, John Lewis<br>1865.—THOMAS, William Atter-<br>bury, Lampeter |
| 1857.—KENDALL, Robert, B.A.,<br>Jesus College, Oxford  | 1867.—JENKINS, William Mars-<br>den, B.A., Jesus Coll., Oxford            |
| 1870.—EDWARDS, E. J., B.A., Lampeter; Deacon, 1869; Pr. 1870.                                  |   |

## SARN.

THIS ecclesiastical district was formed out of the mother parish of Kerry by an Order in Council, dated August 3, 1860, which assigned to it the seven townships of Goetre, Gwenthrew, Cefn y beren, Bahail-lon, Gwernygo, Caliber ucha, and Caliber isa; with an area of about 6,055 acres, of the rateable value of £4,741, and a population of 641. The value of the living is £98;<sup>1</sup> and there is also a parsonage, erected in 1863 at a cost of £800, and an acre and a half of glebe land. The patronage is vested in the Lord Bishop of St. David's.

A grant of a considerable portion of this district was early made, as we have already observed under Kerry, by Meredith ap Maelgwn to the Cistercian Abbey at Cwmhir, which his grandfather had founded; and before the Dissolution, the chapel of Gwernygo, of which some ruins still survive, seems to have been served by the members of that house. Richard Llwyd of Llannerch-Brochwel, in his *Topographical Notices*, states it to have been "supported by the tithes of that township" (Gwernygo), and adds that the township is tithe free, paying only a modus of four-pence to the vicar of Kerry.

<sup>1</sup> Of this, £68 are derived from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners on account of the rectorial tithes, and the remaining £30 from those of the vicar.

The old font is still to be seen in the farmyard at the Lower House, where it is in use, alas ! as a common trough !

The New Church, which is dedicated to the Holy Trinity, may, therefore, be said to supply the wants once cared for by the ruined *capella*. It is built in the Early English style, and consists of a nave and a small chancel ; with a tower on the south side, which has under it the principal entrance, and is surmounted by a small spire. The seats are open, and accommodate two hundred and seventy. The architect was Mr. Haycock of Shrewsbury, and it was consecrated Aug. 13, 1859. The site, valued at £100, was given by Lord Carrington ; and towards the cost of the building (which was about £2,200), £600 were contributed by Lady Edwards, £200 by the St. Asaph Diocesan Church Building Society, £150 by the Incorporated Church Building Society, and £100 each by Bishop Short, Lord Sudeley, R. P. Long, and John Naylor, Esqs.

A new school, to accommodate one hundred children, having a classroom and a master's house attached, was erected in 1868 at a cost of about £500.

#### VICARS.

1859.—HOARE, Richard, St. Bees ; vicar of Woodside, near Leeds, 1865.

1866.—BLUETT, George R., B.A. Trin. Coll., Dublin.

1868.—MOOR, Charles T., M.A., Worc. Coll., Oxford.

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#### LLANDYSSIL.

THIS is a small, agricultural parish of 4,071 a. 1 r. 34 p., contained in the four townships of Bolbro, Bronywood, Bryntaleh, and Rhandir, the last of which embraces two of, and probably the three, earlier and smaller ones of Cefnycoed, Coedywig, and Trefganol.<sup>1</sup> Rateable value, £4,655. Population, 790.

The income of the living has been, at different times, as follows : in the *Taxatio* of 1291 the rectory is returned as of the clear annual value of £6 : 13 : 4, upon which 13s. 4d. were payable as tenths ; and the vicarage, £3 : 6 : 8, no tenths. Soon after this, in the year 1310, we find two entries in *Llyfr Côch*,—"Institutio R. Llandeshull cum assignacione 3 *partis* ejusdem Rectorie tunc et ibidem" ; and immediately following, "institutio in 2 *partes* R. Llandeshull tunc et ibidem" ; which either imply that the rector was instituted successively to the vicar's portion as well as his own ; or, what is more likely, that the first R. is a mistake for V. ; the proportion of one-third to the vicar, and two-thirds to the rector, being that which we have seen above in the *Taxatio* ; which we find repeated in the *Valor* of 1535 ("rectoria

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<sup>1</sup> MS. Book Z, which also gives one of the other townships as Bronycoed, since half Anglicised into Bronywood.



valet clare £14, inde £1 8s. dec.; vicaria, £7 : 10 : 9, inde 16s. 1d. dec.”), and which continued in force till 1678, when the sinecure rectory and vicarage were united into a rectory with cure of souls.<sup>1</sup> The present value of the tithes, by commutation, is £502 16s.; besides which the rector has a good house, built in 1813,<sup>2</sup> and fourteen acres of glebe.

The old parish church, which had become very dilapidated, and was taken down in 1866,<sup>3</sup> consisted of a nave having a curious wooden belfry at its west end, with a south porch and a north door, which had been blocked up, as also one on the south side leading to the rood-loft. Taking its name from its founder, it also retained, in another material, the form of the wattled or rather wooden church which St. Tyssil had erected here some twelve or thirteen centuries ago. Other changes, however, besides the substitution of stone for wood, had left their marks upon it. Whereas one portion shewed something of Norman character, another indicated an addition made in the fourteenth or fifteenth century; whilst a date, 1625, inside, and another, 1640, outside, marked subsequent periods of repair. Finally, in 1798-1802, the parishioners “removed the old rood-loft, took out the mullions of the windows, and disposed of the old font and its cover,” since discovered in use as a tea-table! The belfry, however, was left untouched; and as it was the most striking feature of the old building, and in its external form almost unique in Wales, it may be interesting to note that the method of construction was “not to attempt to construct a tower, and to place the wooden framework of the belfry upon it, but to run up a strong framework in two stories from the ground within, touching the western gable wall, piercing through the roof, and then expanding into a bell-chamber with an

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<sup>1</sup> In a note on *Sinecures*, in MS. Book B, the Rev. Humphrey Ffoulkes, D.D., Prebendary of Llanfair, writes, “That the earliest account of them in our Book at St. Asaph is an instrument by the Bishop of that place, whereby he grants a power to the rector of Llandyssul, in Montgomeryshire, to keep a certain portion of the tithes of that parish, upon his petition to be exonerated from the duty of the place, by reason of his age and infirmity, and to grant the remainder to the officiating curate or clergyman. A good reason given, and a just decree granted.” Not having succeeded in meeting with this instrument, I cannot say to whom or what period it may point; but it does seem to point out a very practical solution of that difficult problem, the superannuation of the clergy,—a solution the more important from the fact of its having been actually carried out.

<sup>2</sup> An earlier vicarage-house is said to have been burnt down between the years 1675 and 1684.

<sup>3</sup> On this occasion portions of a still earlier edifice were discovered, viz. the north wall existing inside the later one, with narrow lancet-windows, and the foundation of the south wall, shewing the older church to have been narrower than the late one.



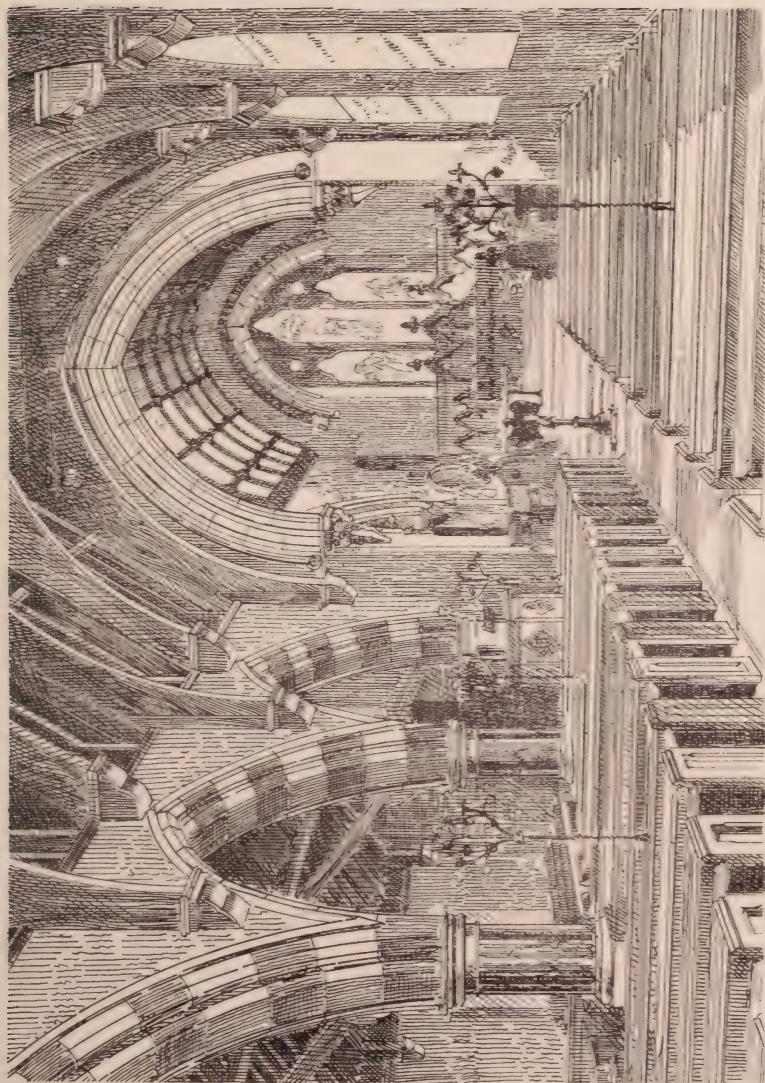
open gallery running round, and a double roof above."<sup>1</sup> The bells are three in number,—one inscribed "1619, Gloria Deo in excelsis," the others dated respectively 1666 and 1662.



The new church is built at the foot of the hill, at the distance of about three hundred yards from the site of the old one, and consists of chancel with organ-chamber and vestry on north side, nave and north aisle, separated by arches of intermixed red and white Grinshill stone, springing from polished granite columns; and tower surmounted by a spire 95 feet high on the south side, the base forming the principal entrance to the church. The chancel is furnished with stalls, and floored with Maw's encaustic tiles; the sacrarium being ornamented with an arcaded reredos of Caen stone with panels of alabaster, the three principal ones being marble inlaid with a cross and sacred monograms. On the north side is a credence-table, and on the south a piscina. The steps to both chancel and sacrarium are interlaid with texts taken from the opening versicles of the *Te Deum*. The font, which is the gift of the architect (T. H. Wyatt), is circular in form, bears the text, "According to His mercy He saved us by the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Ghost," and stands upon a shaft of *Verd des Alpes* marble with carved capital. The pulpit also is of Caen stone, with inlaid panels and columns of the

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<sup>1</sup> *Archæologia Cambrensis* for 1864, pp. 125-132 and 269-272, whence also the accompanying woodcut of the west end.



INTERIOR OF UFFIZI GALLERY - FLORENCE



same marble. The eagle-lectern, which is of oak, was presented by Mrs. Lloyd of Rhagatt. The roof of the chancel is ceiled in panels, with carved bosses at the intersections. That of the nave is open, and coloured blue between the rafters. The seats are open throughout, and will accommodate three hundred and sixty, being one hundred and twenty more than the old church. The chancel window, of three lights, represents the Agony, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection, with appropriate texts. That of the vestry represents the Good Shepherd, and was given, as well as the altar-cloth, by Mrs. H. P. Ffoulkes. The Communion plate, with the exception of the chalice presented by the rector, was the gift of Mrs. Jocelyn Ffoulkes of Eriviatt. The peal of five bells consists of the three old ones recast and two new ones added by Mears of London. The foundation-stone was laid by the Earl of Powis on the 23rd Sept. 1863; and the consecration took place on St. Luke's Day, the 17th Oct. 1865, the opening sermon being by the Bishop (Campbell) of Bangor.<sup>1</sup>

The charities are as follow :

— LEWIS, Hugh, a rent-charge on Pantgwyn in Kerry, £2.

— REYNOLDS, Jeremiah, rent-charge on (Phipps) tenement in Rhandir, £4.

1711.—GRIFFITHS, John, rent-charge, 10s.

— JONES, Chas., charge on Llan Mill for "mongcorn"<sup>2</sup> bread, 10s.

1792.—JACQUERI, Mary, £100; of which, however, from lack of funds, only £63 were available; and that in 1803 was laid out on the repairs of the church, and the annual interest paid £3.

This last charity has been lost to the poor since the refusal of a church rate. The others were yearly distributed at Midsummer and Christmas in sums varying from 6*d.* and 1*s.* to 5*s.* and 8*s.*, until 1859, when an order of the Charity Commissioners was obtained sanctioning their application to the purchase of clothing or fuel, to be either given away to the poor or sold at reduced prices.

A schoolroom was built upon the glebe land in 1849; but it has been superseded by a new one, which was erected at the same time as the new church.

#### SINECURE RECTORS.

#### VICARS.

1537.—VAUGHAN, J.

1556.—GRIFFITH, Morgan

1575.—LEWIS, Griffith, D.D.<sup>3</sup>

1537.—DAVIES, Edward

1540.—THOMAS AP MADOC

1561.—LLOYD, J.

<sup>1</sup> The cost above £3,000. Chief contributors: Archdeacon Ffoulkes, £500; Miss Mytton, £250; St. Asaph C. B. S., £200; Lord Sudeley, £105; and £100 each from the Earl of Powis, Bishop Short, R. E. Jones, Esq., Capt. Maurice Jones, Mrs. Ffoulkes, the Incorporated C. B. S., Bishop Carey's Trustees, and a Bazaar Fund.

<sup>2</sup> Wheat and rye.

<sup>3</sup> Prebendary of Worcester, 1571; Preb. of Westminster, 1577; Dean of Gloucester, 1594.



## SINECURE RECTORS.

- 1607.—GOODMAN, Godfrey, M.A.<sup>1</sup>  
 1616.—KYFFIN, Thomas<sup>2</sup>  
 1622.—BERKELEY, J., D.D.<sup>3</sup>  
 1625.—LLOYD, Robert  
 1660.—HUGHES, Michael<sup>5</sup>

## VICARS.

- 1575.—MOODY, Ralph  
 1584.—GRIFFITH, G.  
 1610.—JONES, Richard  
 1615.—NICHOLAS, David,<sup>6</sup> A.B.,  
 Queen's Coll., Oxon.  
 1628.—THOMPSON, Thomas  
 1661.—PIERS, William  
 1677.—EDWARDS, Peter<sup>7</sup>

## RECTORS.

- 1719.—PARRY, Henry<sup>8</sup>  
 1742.—HARDING, Robert  
 1753.—PARRY, Randolph<sup>9</sup>  
 1755.—COTTON, R.  
 1760.—MARSDEN, John, D.D.<sup>10</sup>  
 1765.—JOHNSON, Jonathan<sup>11</sup>  
 1807.—MYTTON, Devereux Glynne  
 1859.—Ffoulkes, Henry Powell, M.A., Ball. Coll., Oxford; Fourth Class in Litt. Hum.; B.A., 1837; Deacon, 1839; Pr. 1840; Curate of Halkin, 1839; Stip. C., St. Matthew's, Buckley, 1840-57; Rural Dean, 1860; Archdeacon of Montgomery and Canon Residentiary of St. Asaph, 1861.

## LLANLLUGAN.

JUDGING from analogy and tradition, it would appear that this was, from very early times, a religious house for women, founded by St. Llугan in that extensive district of which Meifod was the head, about the time when St. Tysilio presided over that church; as with this equally accord the nomenclature, the tradition that it was founded by St. Tysilio, and the reservation in the grant made by Bishop Hugh

<sup>1</sup> Fellow of Trin. Coll., Camb.; sinecure-rector of Llansannan (first portion), 1603-5; chaplain to the Queen, and rector of Stapleford Abbots in Essex, 1607; sinecure-rector of Llandyssil, 1607-15; Canon of Windsor and rector of West Ildesley in Berks, 1617; sinecure rector of Llansannan (second portion), 1615-16; Ysceiviog, 1616-21; Llanarmon-yn-Iâl, 1621-26; Dean of Rochester, 1620; *Bishop of Gloucester*, 1624.

<sup>2</sup> Vicar of Welshpool, 1600-22; vicar of Berriew, 1608-22; Preb. Faenol, 1614.

<sup>3</sup> Head Master of Oswestry School, 1606; rector of Llanddoget, 1606-11; vicar of Llansannan, 1611-13; rector of Newtown, 1613-14; rector of Llanfyllin, 1614-25; Preb. Llanfair (second portion), 1621.

<sup>4</sup> Rector of Halkin, 1594; vicar of Llanasa, 1614; vicar of Llanrwst, 1619.

<sup>5</sup> Vicar of Chirk, 1660; Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1676.

<sup>6</sup> Canon, 1601; rector of Garthbeibio, 1602-14; vicar of Chirk, 1614-15.

<sup>7</sup> Became rector in 1680-81.

<sup>8</sup> Rector of Ysceifiog, 1702-4; vicar of Llanfor, 1709.

<sup>9</sup> Canon VII, 1746.

<sup>10</sup> Preb. of Faenol, 1760.

<sup>11</sup> Minor Canon of Chester Cathedral.

to the nuns in A.D. 1239.<sup>1</sup> About the time, however, that we meet with the first documentary notice of it, it would seem to have been recently refounded (A.D. 1170-88) as a house of the Cistercian Order, in connexion with Strata Marcella, apparently by Abbot Enoc of that house, who may not unlikely have been a native of this place.<sup>2</sup> The earliest grant of which we have any record, is one which may be called the charter of its new foundation. It was made by one Meredydd ap Robert, who appears to have lived in the time of Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, A.D. 1190, and who bestowed "*Deo et ecclesiæ Beatæ Mariæ*" (to whom, after the practice of that order, the church was now dedicated), the "whole vill of Llanlulan" with all its appurtenances, etc., the boundaries of which are thus enumerated: "*On an this dal oluin iedin que unrud et usque resi in illa parte, ex alia vero parte Oren usque ren arall et usque hal bren et usque redenock dimidiam terræ olit usque cric urno ..... totam terram quæ dicitur Tahalun.*" These lands, which seem to have constituted the manor of Llanllulan, are somewhat more extensive than the present parish. In A.D. 1239 Bishop Hugh of St. Asaph transferred "*Deo et ecclesiæ et sanctis monialibus de Llanllulan*" those portions of the tithes of Llanfair which had belonged to the sons of Sulien, and that which had formed the portion of "*Moruran ap Moraoe, necnon et residuum ecclesiæ cum vacaverit*"; but reserving to himself his rights as rector of Meifod (the mother church), and as bishop of the see.

In the *Taxatio* of 1291 no account is given of the spiritualities attached to the nunnery; but in 1535 they are returned as amounting to £13:8:8, made up of £4:13:4 from Llanllwchaiarn, and £8:15:4 from Llanfair. These, together with the temporalities, amounting in all to £22:14:8, were granted in 1546 to Sir Henry D'Arcy, from whom it passed to Athelustan Hughes of Parc; on whose death, in 1731, it was divided among his three sisters. Of the three shares, one is now held by the Rev. Canon Herbert, another by Mrs. Owen of Glansevern, and the other by many proprietors, viz. Ch. Wilding, H. B. Jones, Nicholas Roche, and T. S. Cartwright, Esqs., and the Rev. G. L. Cartwright. The above are also the tithe-holders and the patrons of the cure. The value of the tithes, as commuted, is £7 to the lords and ladies of the manor, and £97 19s. to the landowners. The perpetual curate's income is derived from the following sources, *e. g.*,

Charge on Dwyriew Farm in Manafon	£18	0	0
Two farms <sup>3</sup> in Garthbeibio bought with Q. A. B. <sup>4</sup>	26	0	0
Interest on £400 Q. A. B. <sup>4</sup>	13	0	0
	£57		

<sup>1</sup> For other derivations, and the text of the grants quoted below, I must refer to *Montgomeryshire Collections*, vol. ii, 301, where an interesting account of the Nunnery is given.

<sup>2</sup> "*Redenock*", in the next charter, may derive its name from him. "*Rhyd-Enoc*," *i. e.* Enoch's Ford.

<sup>3</sup> Foel-lwyd.

<sup>4</sup> Grants of £200, amounting in all to £1,200, were made by Q. A. B. in the years 1726, 60, 91, 1801, 24, and 34.

The extent of the parish is 3,945 acres; its rateable value, £1,471; and population, 304. One of the most distinguished natives was William Baxter, born in 1650, a nephew of the celebrated Richard Baxter, and author of *Glossarium Antiquitatum Britannicarum*, first ed., 1719; second ditto, 1736.

The church is a single body consisting of nave and chancel, with western gallery and south porch, the doorway of which is early Pointed. The chancel is raised one step above the nave, and the original division is further marked by the beam of a former rood-loft. The windows are of Perpendicular character, and in that of the chancel are fragments of painted glass which shew the central subject to have been the Crucifixion; besides a dated inscription which records the period of its erection, "Ora pro bono ..... fabricari (M)CCCCLIH"; and another imperfect one, "(San)cta ora pro"..... The royal arms also, within a garter, with motto, are preserved. The priest's door has been closed up. The font, round on a square base, is very dilapidated, so is the gallery; and, indeed, the whole church is the most neglected and wretched in the diocese.<sup>1</sup> The parish school is kept in it.

Present incumbent, JACOB, Levi Rees, St. Bees, 1850; Deacon, 1851; Pr. 1852. Appointed in 1863.

#### LLANLLWCHAIARN.

THIS parish consists of the four townships of Aberbechan, Hendidley, Gwestydd, and Cilcowen,<sup>2</sup> and embraces an area of 4,330 acres<sup>3</sup> of the rateable value of £9,311, with a population that, owing to the increase of trade in Newtown, and the consequent growth of Penygloddfa, has grown from 675 in 1801 to 2,394 in 1861.

In A.D. 1263 Bishop Anian I appropriated a moiety of the tithes to the abbess and nuns of Llanllugan:<sup>4</sup> hence we find in the *Taxatio* of 1291, with somewhat altered proportions, the rectory ("rector est alibi beneficiatus") returned at £3, *minus* 6s. for tenths; and the vicarage at £1: 6: 8, with no tenths; and in the *Valor Eccles.* of 1535, the rectorial tithes still belonging to Llanllugan, farmed by one Rhys ap Morris ap Owen at an annual rent of £4: 13: 4; and the vicarial put down at the net annual value of £7: 7: 6, *minus* 14s. 9d., tenths, to the Crown. Soon after this, in 1557, owing to the smallness of the

<sup>1</sup> *Maes y Cwrt* (the court yard field), the name of the farm close by, recalls to mind one feature at least of the ancient Nunnery.

<sup>2</sup> The three last are in the liberties of Newtown, and claim a right to vote for the election of a member of Parliament for the united Montgomeryshire boroughs.

<sup>3</sup> About 900 of these were allotted and enclosed in 1804, by virtue of an Act 36 George III.

<sup>4</sup> "A. Ass. Ep'us concedit Abbatisse et Conventui monialium de Llanllugan medietatem ecclesie de Llanllwchayarn. Dat' 1263."—*Llyfr Côch*.



vicar's income, the rectory of Newtown was united to it;<sup>1</sup> and in 1564 Llanmerewig was added. This arrangement, however, seems to have continued in force during one incumbency only, that of Mr. Jenkins. Returns of 1710<sup>2</sup> assign to the impropiator, Mr. Lloyd of Aberbechan, the tithes of Aberbechan and Hendidly, worth £32 per ann.; and those of Gwestydd and Cilcowen, worth £28 per ann., to the vicar, whose stipend was made up of "the Easter book wholly, moieties of the wool and lamb, tithe corn and hay, of two townships; tenth sheaf and cock paid throughout the parish, unless for some "brandirlands,"<sup>3</sup> which pay only the thirteenth sheaf or cock." There were also, besides a house and about ten acres of arable, seven days' math and one acre of meadow land. About the year 1727, Mr. Edward Lloyd, the impropiator, and his brother, Mr. John Lloyd, one of the senior Fellows of Jesus College, Oxford, and vicar of the parish, each gave £100 for the augmentation of the living; and this appears to have been invested in the purchase of a small farm in the parish of Llandyssil, of about fifty-three acres, worth now £70 per ann. The present value of the tithes, according to the commutation, is £220 15s. to the impropiator, Lord Sudeley; and £256 10s. to the vicar, who has also a house and thirty-three acres of glebe.

The church, dedicated to St. Llŵchaiarn, is a modern brick building erected in 1815 at a cost of £1,200, and much improved in 1864 by the addition of a chancel with organ-chamber and vestry on south side, and by the substitution of open seats for pews.<sup>4</sup> The principal entrance lies under the western tower, and there is a gallery at the west end. The seats and roof are open, the chancel floored with tiles; the lectern, pulpit (which stands upon a stone base), and the prayer-desk, are of oak,—the last being a memorial to "Jane Davies, Severn Side, ob. 1869." There are also several memorial windows. Of the two windows of the chancel, the east is in memory of "Eliza Lutener, Dolerw, ob. 1863," and has in its three lights subjects corresponding to the texts which underlie them,—*"Fear not ye"; "Mary," "Rabboni";* and *"All hail."* That on the north side is to the memory of "William Lutener and his youngest son Thomas," both of whom died in 1868, and represents in its two lights the Adoration of the Shepherds and that of the Wise Men. A window on the south side, with "St. Stephen and his Martyrdom" in one light, and "St. Peter and his Release from Prison" in the other, was inserted to the memory of Charles Thomas Woosnam, *"hominis hujus ecclesiæ valde studiosi,"* who died in 1869; and this was followed by the alteration of the rest of the round-headed windows into their present more ecclesiastical and seemly form: the whole cost, about £220, being subscribed by his friends.

<sup>1</sup> "Unitio R. de Nova Villa et V. de Llanllŵchayrne propter exiguitatem proventus."

MS. Book Z.

<sup>3</sup> I. e. *Braint dir*, privileged lands.

The cost of all this was about £460.



At Penygloddfa, the most populous part of the parish, and only divided by the river from Newtown, a school-church was built in 1856 at a cost of £700 (the whole of which was given by Mrs. Lydia Baxter of Hereford, the owner of Upper Bryn, a farm in the parish), exclusive of the walls, offices, and school fittings, which cost about £250, and were paid for by subscription; and the site, which was given by the late David Pugh, M.P. of Llanerchudol. It serves as a National School during the week, and on Sunday and Wednesday evenings is used for religious services.

*Charities.*—1684. AUSTIN, Thomas, a rent-charge of 20s. payable on Gregynog estate, money or coal.

MYTTON, Mrs., of Pont Scowryd, £40, charged by Mr. Edward Lloyd of Aberbechan on Pentre-parog in Meifod parish.

*Lost Charities.*—£5 left by Richard Matthews of Vaenor in Newtown parish; 6s. 8d. said to have been due on Havod Boeth; £5 left by John Powell; £20 left by John Hughes.

## VICARS.

1537.—JONES, Owen

1556.—THOMAS AP IENN<sup>1</sup>

1560.—JENKINS, Thomas<sup>2</sup>

1570.—MADOC, Thomas<sup>3</sup>

— PRICE, Hugh

1589.—EVAN, William

1590.—EVANS, Ellis

1621.—WILLIAMS, Arthur<sup>4</sup>

1624.—THOMAS, Evan

1645.—EVANS, Evan<sup>5</sup>

1661.—PRICE, Hugh<sup>6</sup>

1688.—MORGAN, Richard

1727.—LLOYD, John, B.D.<sup>7</sup>

1743.—MORGAN, Thomas, M.A.

1756.—BAXTER, Edmund

1762.—BLANEY, Richard

1775.—DRAKE, Samuel

1799.—WINGFIELD, Rowland,

M.A.<sup>8</sup>

1801.—WINGFIELD, Charles<sup>9</sup>

1851.—TOMPSON, Frederick Henry, M.A., Queen's Coll. Oxford; B.A.

1826, Deac. 1827, Pr. 1826, M.A. 1843, Rural Dean of Caedewen.

<sup>1</sup> Rector of Manafon, 1537.

<sup>2</sup> Rector of Newtown, 1560, and rector of Llanmerewig, 1564.

<sup>3</sup> Vicar of Llandyssil, 1540; rector of Llanwyddelan, 1570.

<sup>4</sup> Prebendary of Llanfair, 1586.

<sup>5</sup> "Upon Sondaie after Easter, Evan Evans, clerk, being admitted parson of Llanllwchaiarn, com. Montg., read the Articles of Religion agreed upon in 1562; for that he could not quietly yet repair to Llanllwchaiarne to read them there, without danger of lieff, and for feare of the enemies." This was at the parish church, St. Asaph. (*Piers Roberts' Diary*.)

<sup>6</sup> Rector of Gwaunysgor, 1686.

<sup>7</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford.

<sup>8</sup> Vicar of Rhuabon, 1801; Canon, 1819.

<sup>9</sup> Perpetual Curate of Moughtre, 1808-22.

## LLANMEREWIG.

THERE is much uncertainty as to the meaning and origin of this name. In the *Myryrian Archaeology*<sup>1</sup> it is written "Llam-yr-Ewig," i.e. "the hart's leap," and there may have been some forgotten legend to account for it. Others derive it from "Merewig," the supposed founder of the church. But it does not bear this dedication; and if it did, the initial M would have been softened into F. Probably the latter part of the name, "y wig" (the grove) gives the clue to the real derivation,—a derivation sufficiently appropriate to the natural character of the district in early times, as witnessed by the names of townships in neighbouring parishes; and quite consistent with the hypothesis that it was originally a chapelry to Llanllwchaiarn, and with the fact that its one township was formerly called Llanllwchaiarn *isa*<sup>2</sup> (the lower). The parish is of small extent, consisting of one township of the same name, containing about 1,000 acres of the rateable value of £1,176 : 7 : 8, and a population of 148.

In the *Taxatio* of 1291, "Ecclesia de Lamewily taxatur £2, non decimat."; and in the *Valor Eccles.* of 1535, "valet clare £6 : 12 : 8, inde pro xma parte Regi debet 13s. 3¼d." Soon after this we meet with "consolidatio hujus ecclesiæ vicariæ de Llanllychaiarne 7 Aug. 1548"; but from a comparison of the names of the incumbents of the respective parishes, it appears to have been but a temporary arrangement, just as in the case of Llanllwchaiarn and Newtown. An old terrier of 1689 mentions a house (which is now but a poor, straw-thatched, clay-floor cottage) and stable with about thirteen acres of glebe. The tithes consisted of the tenth of "grain, wool, and lamb, hemp, flax, honey, etc.; except the farm called the Court, and lands belonging to Abermule Mill, which (being 'brandir' lands) pay only the thirteenth sheaf and thirteenth grass-cock." The commuted value of the tithes is £133 5s. The rector has also about 8 a. 31 p. of glebe, but no house save the above mentioned cottage. The patronage is in the Bishop of Llandaff, to whom it was recently transferred from St. Asaph.

The church, dedicated in the name of St. Llwchaiarn, with its vigil or "wake" on the Sunday after Twelfth Day, is beautifully situated on the ridge of a hill overlooking the valley of the Severn. It consists of chancel, nave with north-west gallery, western bell-tower, south porch, and north-east vestry; and has undergone frequent additions and improvements, of a fanciful but substantial character, principally the work of John Parker, rector 1827-44. Thus in 1833 the gallery was erected; in 1837, the vestry built, and east window painted; in 1838, the belfry-turret built, and an addition to the gallery, as well as two new pews formed out of the old bell-tower; in 1840 the porch was new fronted; in 1843, a painted window inserted on the south side; in 1845, the chancel planked with oak; and in 1848, the church-

<sup>1</sup> *Henwau Plwyfau Cymru*, p. 743, 2nd edit.

<sup>2</sup> MS. Book Z.

yard wall built. Much of architectural detail in stone, wood, and iron, has been expended on the above and other alterations in the church. Thus, whilst a portion of the old screen remains *in situ*, other portions have been reproduced in the altar-rails, in the pulpit and desk (which are placed within the rails), and in the front of the gallery. The ceiling and walls are painted in coloured designs. Open seats have been inserted by the late Lady Leighton, in furtherance of her brother's wishes, in lieu of the pews which had been erected in 1821. The font is a modern octagonal vase; but on the ledge of one of the south windows are preserved the remains of an early one of the thirteenth century, discovered in the parish, and removed hither by the rector in 1833. A recess in the north wall is now occupied by the parish chest, and on the south wall a small shrine fills up the space of the ancient stoup for holy water. Near it is the stove, which is curiously mounted some feet above the floor, and discharges its smoke through an ornamental chimney erected in 1842. There are a few monuments to the family of Lloyd of the Court, but none others of any importance.

There is a small dame's school supported by the rector and the children's pence.

In 1792 Mrs. Mary Jacqueri left by will £100 to the poor of the parish; but in lack of assets, as at Llandyssil, £63 were accepted in satisfaction thereof. This was expended, in 1821, in the repewing of the church, and £3 3s. paid annually out of the rates until 1831, when it was discontinued, and has not since been renewed.

#### RECTORS.

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1537.—DAVID AP LLENN (Llew-elyn)   | 1643.—BRIGHT, Thomas, A.M.            |
| 1560.—THOMAS AP DAVID  | 1666.—EVANCE, Thomas                  |
| 1564.—JENKIN, Thomas <sup>1</sup>  | 1688.—EVANCE, J.                      |
| 1567.—JONES, Griffith <sup>2</sup>   | 1700.—JONES, Ellis                    |
| 1573.—MYDDELTON, Robert  | — SMITH, Robert                       |
| 1575.—JONES, Gregory   | 1732.—LEWIS, Richard                  |
| 1617.—PRICE, J.  | 1762.—JONES, Roderick                 |
| 1618.—LLOYD, J.  | 1782.—VARDY, Edward <sup>5</sup>      |
| 1620.—EVANS, Matthew <sup>3</sup>  | 1797.—JONES, Roderick                 |
| 1635.—JONES, Edward, A.M. <sup>4</sup>   | 1798.—DAVIES, Llewelyn                |
|  | 1827.—PARKER, John, A.M. <sup>6</sup> |
| 1844.—LLOYD, John, A.M., Emmanuel College, Camb.; Wrangler and B.A. 1832, M.A. 1835, Deac. 1836, Pr. 1837. |                                       |

<sup>1</sup> Rector of Newtown and vicar of Llanllwchaiarn, 1560.

<sup>2</sup> Rector of Aberhafesp, 1574.

<sup>3</sup> Rector of Llanddulas, 1616-20; rector of Penegoes, 1635. Deprived by the Committee of Sequestrators.

<sup>4</sup> Vicar of Nantglyn, 1625.

<sup>5</sup> Student of Christ Church, Oxford; minister of Market Harborough in Leicestershire, where he resided; and subsequently rector of Yelvertoft in Northants.

<sup>6</sup> Oriel College, Oxford; vicar of Llanyblodwell, 1844.



## LLANWYDDELAN.

THE three townships of this parish, Pencoed, Treganol, and Penymaes, embrace an area of 3,784 acres of the rateable value of £1,987, with a population of 476.

The earliest notice of the place occurs in the *Taxatio* of 1291, in which we find "Ecclesia de Lanwydean taxatur £5, dec. 10s." In the *Valor* of 1535 it is returned as of still less value: "Valet in grosso, £4; clare, £3:8:4, minus 13s. 3¼d. pro decimâ parte regi." The present commuted value of the tithes is £254, in addition to which there is a glebe house built about 1806, and about fifty acres of glebe, making the gross income about £320; the patronage of which has recently been transferred from St. Asaph to Llandaff.

The church, which takes its name from its founder, St. Gwyddelan, a saint of uncertain date, but whose "wake" or festival was held on the 22nd of August, has been recently rebuilt (in 1865) on the site and plan of the previous one, which appears to have been greatly altered, if not built, in 1641. It consists of a single body with western steeple and south porch; is open-seated, to accommodate one hundred and fifty; and has an open roof and lancet-windows, that of the chancel being a triplet. The font is from the old church. The cost of the rebuilding was £520,<sup>1</sup> exclusive of some £200 in carriage.

A School was built here in 1856, which was supported partly by Betton's Charity, partly by moneys left to the parish for that purpose, *e. g.* in 1742 Rowland Evans bequeathed £15 towards setting up a charity school; to which the rector, John Jones, added £15; and Richard Price, Esq., £12, the interest to be employed for the purposes of education. This money was lent by the parish in 1811, on a note of hand, to one Evan Oliver, who failed, and it was lost; but the parish for a long while continued the payment of the interest to the schoolmaster. For some time, however, no school has been held here.

The following charities were left to the poor, and are distributed annually:

	£	s.	d.
MORRIS AP REES AP DAVID, £5, charged on Tynypwll Farm	0	5	0
Anon., rent-charge on Buck's Land	0	10	0
REV. JOHN JONES, £5 lent on security	0	5	0

## RECTORS.

1537.—BROMFIELD, Robert	1576.—VAUGHAN, J. <sup>2</sup>
1540.—HUGH AP GRUFFYDD	1581.—HOLLAND, J. <sup>3</sup>
1556.—HUGH AP DAVID	1586.—EDWARDS, Evan
1570.—MADOC, Thomas	1589.—TANATT, Gruffydd <sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The principal contributor was Lord Sudeley, who gave £150. The Diocesan Church Building Society and Mr. Lyon Winder each added £75.

<sup>2</sup> Vic. St. Martin's, 1575; rect. Llanelian, 1598.

<sup>3</sup> Sinecure R. Llanfor, 1581.

<sup>4</sup> V. Llansantffraid-yn-Mechain, 1617.



- 1617.—GRIFFITHS, Griffith<sup>1</sup>  
     (EVANS, Ellis  
     THOMAS, Evan)  
 1666.—ROGERS, Philip  
 1687.—TREVOR, John<sup>2</sup>  
 1734.—JONES, John  
 1753.—ROGERS, William<sup>3</sup>  
 1767.—DAVIES, Hugh  
 1803.—DAVIES, Walter, M.A.<sup>4</sup>  
 1807.—HUGHES, Maurice<sup>5</sup>  
 1847.—M'INTOSH, Joseph, B.A.<sup>6</sup>  
 1860.—RICHARDS, Philip Morgan,  
     B.A.<sup>7</sup>  
 1862.—EDWARDS, Thomas  
 1871.—PRICE, John Banks, Lampeter; Senior Scholar and Bate's  
     Prizeman; Deacon, 1850; Pr. 1851; vic. Pyle and Kenfig, 1855-  
     60; vic. Coed Kernew with St. Bride's, Wentloog, 1860-71.

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MANAFON.<sup>8</sup>

"ECCLESIA de Manaon" appears in the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas, A.D. 1291, as both a rectory and a vicarage; the former valued at £3 : 6 : 8, and the latter at £4, and both of them free from tenths. Some time in the interval between that and the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of Henry VIII, A.D. 1535, the rectory and vicarage were united, as it only appears there as a rectory of the net value of £8 : 18 : 2, on which 17s. 10d. were payable as tenths to the King. About the beginning of the last century its value was returned at £80. The enclosure of waste land in 1796 has added greatly to its value, and it has been commuted at £460. The rector has also a house built in 1791 (in lieu of one which had been burnt down in 1714), and enlarged in 1849, together with about eight acres and a half of glebe.<sup>9</sup> The patronage is in the Bishop of the diocese.

The parish consists of four townships—1, Llys; 2, Llan; 3, Caenog;

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<sup>1</sup> He was deprived, according to Walker; and it would appear that the two next, Evans and Thomas (after whose name Browne Willis puts a ?) were put in his place during the Commonwealth.

<sup>2</sup> Built the old rectory.      <sup>3</sup> Removed to the rectory of Ripple, Kent.

<sup>4</sup> Matriculated at St. Alban's Hall, Oxford, 1792; B.A., All Souls' Coll., 1795; M.A., Trin. Coll., Camb., 1803; Sub-Curator of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1792; Deacon, 1795; Pr. 1796; P. C. Ysptyt Ifan, 1799; R. Llanwyddelan, 1803; R. Manafon, 1807; V. Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, 1837. He was an able critic and a voluminous writer. His works have recently been published, in three volumes, under the able editorship of the Rev. D. Silvan Evans, B.D., rector of Llanymawddwy. (*Caerfyrddin*, W. Spurrell.)

<sup>5</sup> He was also P. C. of Dolwyddelan, and resided near Bettws-y-Coed.

<sup>6</sup> Ch. Ch., Oxford; B.A., 1841; R. Llanerfyl, 1860.

<sup>7</sup> New Inn Hall, Oxford; P. C. Rhos, Llanerchrugog, 1844.

<sup>8</sup> This name is supposed to be a corruption of "Min-afon" (the edge of the river), so called from the site of the church.

<sup>9</sup> An exchange of 3 a. 32 p. was made, in 1834, with the Earl of Powis, who gave 1 a. 2 r. 12 p. additional to the glebe.

and the distant (4) Dwyrhiew and Dolgynfelyn,<sup>1</sup> which is separated from the rest by an intervening portion of Llanwyddelan. The area is 6,626 acres; the rateable value, £3,889; and the population, 701.

The church (St. Michael's) was substantially restored in 1860, with the addition of a vestry on the north side, and follows the usual type of the earlier churches of the neighbourhood, being formed of a nave with south porch, and a wooden belfry at the west end. The roof has its panels foliated, and the seats are open. There are portions of an old screen at the west end, and the dates 1608 and 1687 are inlaid in some wood-work now forming a reredos. The Normanesque Font is the gift of a member of the Henllys family, to other members of which the stained glass of the east window and some pretty crosses<sup>2</sup> in the churchyard are memorial. The Crucifixion forms the central subject of the window, having on one side "Christ Blessing little Children," and "Abraham's Sacrifice"; and on the other, "The Trial of our Lord," and "Saul and David"; the tracery being filled with the figures of St. Michael and St. Catherine.

The School was built in 1832, and has an endowment of £2 10s. arising from Ty-yn-y-Llidiart in Llanfair, purchased with a bequest of £10 left by Judith James, in 1718, to the poor of the parish, and a donation of £20 from Rowland Evans, in 1735, towards teaching poor children to read.

The other charities are as follows :

	Ann. Val.
1658.—BAXTER, George, a rent-charge on the Hill House in Churchstoke . . . . .	£2 10 0
1689.—THOMAS, Evan, rent-charge on Lletty Lowry . . . . .	0 12 0
— SHONE, John Thomas, £7, charged on Lluest y Voel in Dwyrhiew . . . . .	0 7 0
1781.—FOULKES, William, £30 (and the same to Berriew) . . . . .	1 10 0

#### RECTORS.

— JEFFREY AP HOWELL <sup>3</sup>	1631.—PARRY, Henry <sup>6</sup>
1537.—THOMAS AP IEUAN or Evan	1635.—KYFFIN, John, B.D. <sup>7</sup>
1554.—JOHN AP EDWARD	1660.—GWYNNE, Lewis, A.M. <sup>8</sup>
1597.—WILLIAMS, Peter <sup>4</sup>	1684.—HIGGINS, J., A.M. <sup>9</sup>
1599.—BLAYNEY, David	1702.—BAKER, Thomas <sup>10</sup>
1622.—PULESTON, Edward, A.M. <sup>5</sup>	1732.—PARRY, Thomas

<sup>1</sup> A chapel of ease formerly in this township: hence the inhabitants had no seats in the parish church.

<sup>2</sup> William Parry Williams, ob. 1859. Mary Williams, ob. 1865, and William Parry Williams, ob. 1865.

<sup>3</sup> Canon, 1552. <sup>4</sup> Preb. Meifod, 1598. <sup>5</sup> Sinecure R. of Hope, 1616-43.

<sup>6</sup> R. Llysfaen, 1606-13; vic. Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, 1612-16.

<sup>7</sup> Preb. of Meliden, 1628. Deprived by the Parliamentary sequestrators.

<sup>8</sup> Vic. choral, 1613; R. Newtown, 1614-17; V. Llanrhaiadr, 1616-25; R. Denbigh, 1621-25.

<sup>9</sup> Vic. chor. 1683.

<sup>10</sup> Vic. Llanrwst, 1697-1702.

- 1739.—INGRAM, Richard, B.A.<sup>1</sup>      1794.—DAVIES, Morgan  
 1747.—WYNNE, William, A.M.<sup>2</sup>      1807.—DAVIES, Walter, M.A.<sup>3</sup>  
 1760.—DAVIES, Edward      1838.—HUGHES, Daniel  
 1851.—LEWIS, Thomas, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Deacon, 1831;  
 Pr. 1832; P. C. Capel Garmon, 1835; V. Llanbrynmair, 1838-51.

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### NEWTOWN.

THE dedication of the church and the Lady-Well near the town, both hand down the name by which this place was earliest known, "*Llan-fair-yng-Nghedewain*" (*St. Mary's in Caedewen*). Thus in Pope Nicholas' *Taxatio*, A.D. 1291, under "*Decanatus de Kedeweyn*" we have "*Eccl'ia de Llanwoyr taxat' £5; decima, 10s.*"; whereas in the *Valor Eccles.* of Henry VIII, A.D. 1535,<sup>4</sup> it appears under its modern name of Newtown; the change having been due, according to a tradition, to the burning of the old town, and the building of a new one in its place.

This parish consists of three divisions or townships, viz. Upper, Lower, and Southern; with an area of 2,736 a. 1 r. 13 p., rateable value of £12,735, and population, 3,692, chiefly engaged in the manufacture of flannels.

The living is a rectory, in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph, of the commuted value of £512, with a glebe house built in 1814, and 3 a. 2 r. 27 p. of glebe land.

The old church (St. Mary the Virgin) "was built of rubble stones from the bed of the river Severn, and consisted of a double aisle with a tower surmounted by a wooden belfry at the north-west angle. The altar, which was an oak chest with a marble slab on the top, and presented by William Evance, rector in 1768, was placed at the east end of the north aisle; and near it an altar-piece, painted and presented by Dyer the poet. Subject, "*The Last Supper*."<sup>5</sup> The roof, which was of oak richly moulded, was supported between the aisles by five octagonal oak pillars." A Montgomeryshire antiquary,<sup>6</sup> writing in 1832, supplies the further information that there were in the church a gilt partition containing various curious devices, and an antique Font, reported to have been brought from Abbey Cwmhir; also a beautiful screen brought from thence by Sir Matthew Pryce. From a Report made by the Rural Dean in 1729 we further learn that the

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<sup>1</sup> Promoted from Llandegfan and Beaumaris to Llannefydd V. 1737-9.

<sup>2</sup> V. Llanbrynmair, 1740-8; R. Llangynhafal, dioc. Bangor, 1750-61. Author of several Welsh poems.

<sup>3</sup> Gwalter Mechain. See Llanwyddelan rectors, *sub ann.* 1803.

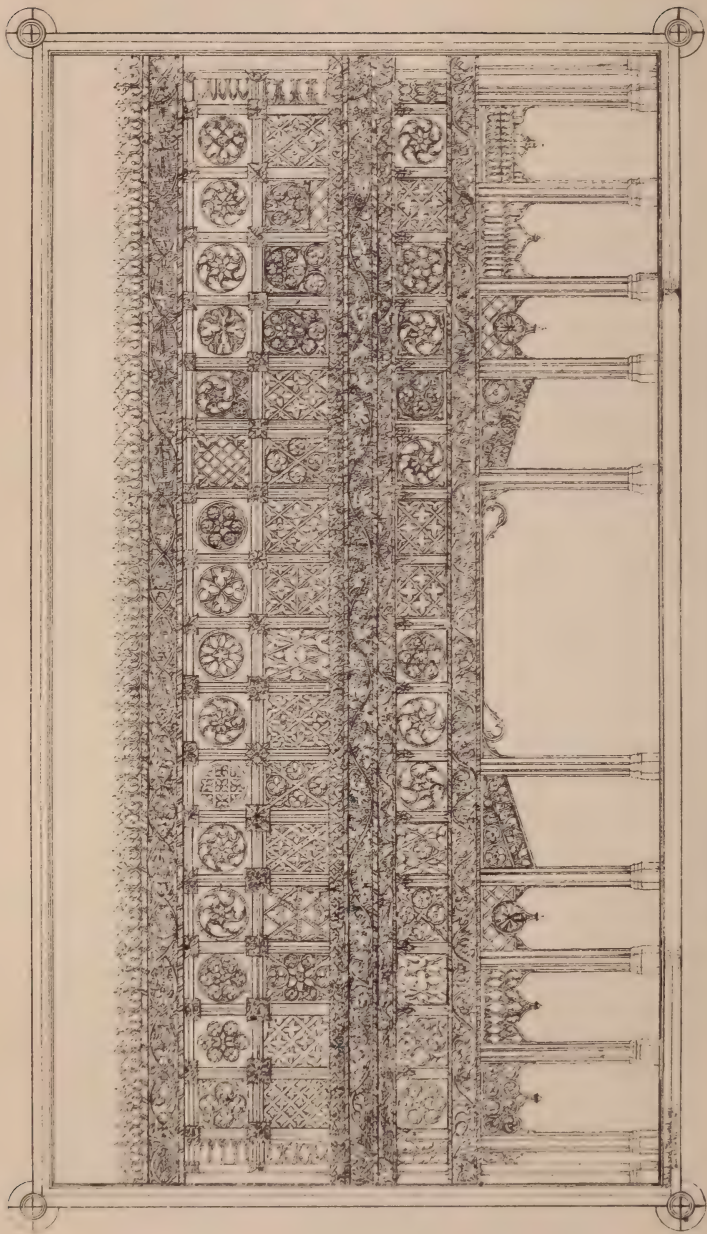
<sup>4</sup> "*Rectoria de Nova Villa valet clare coeuntibus annis viijli. xvs. Od. dec. xvijs. vjd.*"

<sup>5</sup> Newly rediscovered at the Rectory, 1871.

<sup>6</sup> Richard Llwyd of Llanerch Brochwel, in his *Topographical Notices*, 1832.







SCREEN AT NEWTOWN CHURCH, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

REMOVED FROM THE OLD PARISH CHURCH.

*Photo. Lithographed from a drawing by David Walker, Architect*

Communion plate was extraordinary good, the gifts of Sir John Pryce, Bart., and Arthur Pryce, Esq., in the year 1726 ; and from another in 1732, that among the Church plate was "a silver bason (the gift of the same baronet) for 'Xtianing'; that the altar was of marble ; that workmen were then busy in making the seats uniform"; and that "all the duties in the Church were performed in English, but there used to be a Welsh sermon once a month, and y<sup>e</sup> second lesson in Welsh, but this was laid aside by Mr. Evans, the late rector, though many in the parish were for Welsh."

For the screen, which was transferred in 1856 to the New Church, where it forms a kind of reredos, I cannot do better than quote from the description contributed by Mr. D. Walker,<sup>1</sup> of Liverpool, to the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, 1870 : "The carving and panels are in an excellent state of preservation, and, although dark with age, still bear the tool-marks as fresh as when cut. The enriched and interlaced cornices have traces of colour—vermilion and gold—with which it was at one time decorated, the effect of which, when standing as a rood, must have been considerably heightened by the light through the perforations of the exceedingly rich and varied panelling. The cornices are carved in a remarkably free and characteristic manner ; the top cornice represents a conventional treatment of the leek, the middle cornice the vine, and the lower entwined palm leaves ; the execution of the work is such that deep relief is obtained, whilst the tendrils and stems are delicate and well undercut. The variety of the panels is very curious, some of the designs being particularly quaint, and very few alike ; the hand of the artist is apparent in every line, and it is gratifying to find that so excellent and interesting a monumental remain has escaped mutilation. The date of the work is evidently that of the fourteenth century." From a comparison of measurements, Mr. Walker is convinced that it could not have belonged to Abbey Cwmhir ; and that the commonly received opinion to that effect cannot be correct.

The illustration<sup>2</sup> on the next page gives an excellent idea of the massive tower, with the wooden belfry by which it was surmounted, both of which still survive, as well as of a portion of the north aisle. The willow tree, which appears in the illustration, was grown from a cutting brought by Sergeant-Major Dolby from that planted over Napoleon's grave at St. Helena. Close by lie the remains of the celebrated Robert Owen, the philanthropist, or, as he is better known, the Socialist, who was buried here in his native place in 1858. The Church itself, which is now in ruins, is about to be restored as a chapel of ease to its new mother church.

The new Church, which is also dedicated in the name of St. Mary,

<sup>1</sup> To whom I am indebted for the permission to have the accompanying photo-lithograph, taken from a beautiful drawing of it as restored.

<sup>2</sup> From the pencil of the late Rev. H. Longueville Jones, through the kindness of the editors of the *Arch. Camb.*, vol. for 1864, p. 255.

and is in style partly Norman, partly Early English, from the designs of Mr. Thomas Penson, was consecrated Sept. 13th, 1847, and the following year was made the parish Church. In plan, it consists of nave, with north and south aisles, a small sacarium, or chancel, and a western tower, beneath which is the principal entrance ; the material



being white brick, and the cost about £4,600. Internally three large galleries run round its three sides, and the pulpit and desk rise in tiers from the central aisle. The western gallery is occupied by the organ ; and the church, which is pewed throughout,<sup>1</sup> will seat six hundred. The screen, which was removed hither at the expense and under the direction of the Rev. J. P. Drew, now “lines the chancel on three sides within the altar-rails ; the lower or arcaded portion having been cut down so as to fit under the east window, and the central space divided to receive the Communion-table. The length of the screen, as now fixed, is 32 feet 4 inches, being about 10 feet less than when in its original position across the nave of the old church. The moulded supports under the lower cornice have also been reduced almost 4 feet in height, but the upper portions remain unaltered.”<sup>2</sup> The old octagonal font and a monument to the Pryces

<sup>1</sup> Upon the Report of a Commission issued in 1848, certain of these pews were assigned by the Bishop in lieu of others in the old church.

<sup>2</sup> *Montgomeryshire Collections*, 1870, p. 212.



of Newtown were also removed hither from the old church. So also in 1868 was the fine peal of six bells, originally the gift of the Newtown family, and recast by Rudhall of Gloucester in 1727. The organ, by Willis of London, was erected in 1849, and cost £600.

The present National School was built at the same time as the church, at a cost of £1,031. Till about the year 1830 a school was held in the Town Hall, and endowed with the interest of £63 of Offer-tory money, which, owing to a dispute between the minister and churchwardens about its disposition, the Bishop of St. Asaph had assigned, in 1748, for this purpose; and of £20, at that time in the hands of Charles Humphreys. Owing, however, to rent being demanded, about the above date, for the use of the room, the school was discontinued, and the endowment (£4 3s. p. a.) transferred to a mistress who kept a private school, in consideration of instructing eight children nominated by the clergyman; but it is now applied to a similar purpose in the National School. The principal (£83) is secured by bond on the Montgomeryshire Turnpike Trust.

A charity called "Griffiths' Newtown National School and Night-Lodging Charity," founded by one Griffiths, a waiter, who died in London in 1843, arising from money invested by him in the funds, and amounting to £61 14s. per ann., has been disposed of by a scheme authorised by the Court of Chancery in the following manner: £30 to the schoolmaster's salary, and the remainder to the rent and taxes of a house hired for the purposes of the school and the night-lodging, and their requirements. As to the school, the will provides for the education of twenty poor boys, who are to be supplied with books, etc.; and, when the funds admit, an outfit, which they are to wear on Sundays only, in the school and at the parish church. The "Night-Lodging" provides a bed for poor decent Welshmen not having the means of paying for such.

Littleton Lloyd, in 1734, left £10, the interest to be paid to the rector for preaching a sermon on Good Friday "as long as the Severn runs."

The other charities, which are distributed among the poor at Christmas, are as follow:

1738.—JONES, William, a rent-charge on Ty-yn-y-cwm, now part of Caedafor in Llanllwchaearn parish, 10s.

1815.—EVANS, Elizabeth, £300 in £3 per Cent. Annuities, £8 15s.

Other charities, now lost, were mentioned on tablets in the church, as below:

1713.—Anonymous, £10 (interest thereof paid till 1833); ditto, £5.

1734.—EDWARDS, Catherine, £10.

— POWELL, David, £10.

1769.—EVANCE, William, clerk, rector, £2 2s. p. a., charged on his estate in Moughtre, but supposed to have been voided by the Statute of Mortmain.



## RECTORS.

1537.—Richard ap Gruffydd <sup>1</sup>	1666.—EVANS, John <sup>9</sup>
1546.—HERAM, Nicholas	1688.—EDWARDS, J. <sup>10</sup>
1556.—JOHN AP RICE	1691.—FORRESTER, George
1560.—JENKINS, Thomas <sup>2</sup>	1702.—BAXTER, J.
1582.—OWEN, William	1718.—RICHARDS, Thomas <sup>11</sup>
1583.—PRICE, Thomas	1718.—BABINGTON, Joseph <sup>12</sup>
1592.—MORGAN, Humphrey	1719.—EVANS, Evan
1613.—BERKELEY, John, A.M. <sup>3</sup>	1732.—PARRY, Thomas
1614.—GWYNNE, Lewis <sup>4</sup>	1732.—EVANCE, William
1617.—LLOYD, Simon <sup>5</sup>	1772.—STRONG, Samuel <sup>13</sup>
1631.—GRIFFITH, George <sup>6</sup>	1775.—BROWN, William <sup>14</sup>
1632.—MADRYN, Hugh, A.M.	1794.—WILLIAMS, William, A.M. <sup>15</sup>
1640.—LEWIS, Eubule, A.M. <sup>7</sup>	1796.—LEWIS, Edward
[BARNET, Nathanael ROGERS, Hugh <sup>8</sup> ]	1811.—CLEAVER, William, A.M. <sup>16</sup>

<sup>1</sup> “23 Hen. VIII, 24 Jan., Montgomery. Vaynor Ugch in the parishe of the New Towne. A grant of ‘lands called Doll-y-bonte, which lyeth there, by Sir Richard Gr. priest, for the purpose of erecting a mill there, and ‘to find a priest to singe in the *new chapel of the church* of the New Towne, and to praie the kinges grace, and for all christell soules.’—32 Hen. VIII. Vanior Ucha in the New Towne. A grant of certain lands, houses, chattels, there being. A water mill, a ‘walke mill’ there and appurts’. And in Pentre-yr-Efel. The Teyle houses there, by Sir Rich. Griff. priest, to the use and behoof of Mr. Richard ap Price, vicar of Kerry, and Sir Morris ap David, chaplaine of the New Towne, et al’s to praie for soules of certain persons deceased; also to praie for my soule, and my father and mother th’r soules, and all Xten soules.” (*Land Rev. Rolls, N. Wales*, iii, fo. 38, in *Montgomeryshire Collections*, vol. ii, p. 368.)

<sup>2</sup> V. Llanllwchaiarn, 1560; R. Llanmerewig, 1564 (*vide* p. 333).

<sup>3</sup> Preb. Llanfair, R. Llandyssil, 1622.

<sup>4</sup> V. Llanrhaiadr, 1616; R. Denbigh, 1621; R. Manafon, 1660.

<sup>5</sup> V. Llansilin, 1615.

<sup>6</sup> Bishop of St. Asaph, 1660.

<sup>7</sup> Deprived by the Committee of Sequestration, 1646.

<sup>8</sup> Barnett and Rogers were put in during the Commonwealth. On the Restoration, the latter being a Congregationalist or Independent was ejected by the Act of Uniformity.

<sup>9</sup> Head Master of Oswestry School, 1678; Canon of St. Asaph, 1681; V. Berriew, 1686.

<sup>10</sup> R. Llanfyllin, 1691.

<sup>11</sup> R. Llanfyllin and Canon, 1718.

<sup>12</sup> Vic. chor. 1702.

<sup>13</sup> R. Marchwiall, 1775; Canon, 1798.

<sup>14</sup> Preb. Meifod, 1779; V. Berriew, 1793.

<sup>15</sup> R. Llanfyllin, 1774-1813; R. Llangadfan, 1796.

<sup>16</sup> Prebendary of Faenol and sinecure R. of Corwen and Llanfor, 1809. He built the Rectory house.

1814.—CLEAVER, John Francis, 1815.—FOXTON, George<sup>2</sup>  
A.M.<sup>1</sup> 1844.—EDWARDS, John, M.A.<sup>3</sup>

1870.—WILLIAMS, John, St. Bees; Deacon, 1862; Pr. 1863; Curate of Holy Trinity, Ripon, 1862; St. Mary's, Bootle, 1865; St. Mark's, Wrexham, 1869.

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### TREGYNON.

"*ECCLESIA de Treskeno est appropriat' Hospitalariis et ideo non taxatur*," is the account given in Pope Nicholas' *Taxatio*, A.D. 1291; the particular establishment to which it belonged being that of the "Knights Hospitallers of Halston," near Oswestry. But when, and by whom, the appropriation was made is not known. It was, however, most likely the grant of some local chieftain who joined the Order during the Crusades. In the *Valor Eccles.* of 1535, "*Rectoria de Trigumon appropriatur com'endar' de Hawston prout postea patebit*"; a promise not fulfilled, as there is no distinct mention of it under the account of that Commaundry. After its dissolution the tithes descended by grant, purchase, and marriage, into the possession of the late Lord Sudeley; from whom they were acquired, in 1863, for the benefit of the cure, by virtue of a grant of £1,000 from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, to meet a benefaction of the same value from himself as impropiator. Their commuted value is £90. The living is a rectory, in the patronage of Lord Sudeley, and is of the value of £181 : 9 : 6 per ann.; derived partly from the above tithes, and the rest from the following sources :

	£	s.	d.
Rent of Cefn-Hir farm in Gladestry <sup>4</sup>	-	-	45 0 0
„ Cerrig-Arthur farm in Manafon <sup>5</sup>	-	-	24 0 0
Rent-charge upon the Blayney (now Lord Sudeley's) property	20	0	0
Interest of £84 : 13 : 4, Queen Anne's Bounty	-	-	2 9 6
			<hr/> £91 9 6

There are four townships, Tregynon, Aberhale, Llanfechain, and

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<sup>1</sup> Sinecure R. Corwen, 1812, and Canon, 1815.

<sup>2</sup> By exchange with J. F. Cleaver for Great Coxwell vicarage, Berkshire. He was also vicar of Queensborough in Leicestershire, and of Twynning in Gloucestershire, where he resided.

<sup>3</sup> St. Peter's Coll. Camb. Author of a pamphlet on the Corn Laws and two sermons on special occasions.

<sup>4</sup> Purchased in 1780 for £650, made up of an allotment of £200 from Queen Anne's Bounty in 1775; to which the impropiator, Arthur Blayney, Esq., added £200; which was met by an additional £200 from Queen Anne's Bounty, and increased by another £50 from himself.

<sup>5</sup> Bought, in 1829, for £824; the sum, with interest, of four lots which fell to Tregynon in 1815.

Pyllau, embracing an area of about 6,300 acres, of the rateable value of £4,210, with a population of 703.

The church, which, like the parish, has followed the founder's name, Cynon, is a small modern edifice rebuilt about 1790, in the form of a parallelogram, with a gallery at the west end, and a belfry of sound and massive timber containing one bell dated 1795. The font is new, octagonal in form, and has its panels foliated; the roof is ceiled, the pulpit and desks in tiers, and the body of the church pewed. A tablet at the east end commemorates many members of the Blayney family (the former owners of the Gregynog estate) from 1595 to 1709; and there is an expressive monument to the memory of Arthur Blayney, a considerable benefactor to this church, who died in 1795, on which a female is represented in a mourning attitude, surmounted by a funeral urn, and holding in her hand a pelican's nest, with the young ones feeding on their mother's breast. It is by J. Bacon, R.A.

The School is supported and managed by the Hon. H. H. Tracy, M.P.

*The Charities.*—Mr. FFOULKES, a rent-charge of 10s. per ann. on Buck's Land in Llanwyddelan.

Unknown, 3 a. 2 r. 29 p., "the Old House on Cefn Twlch"; also 3 a. 2 r. 2 p. adjoining the above.<sup>2</sup>

WEAVER, Arthur, Esq., £5 p. a., and four nominations to the Bet-tws Almshouses.

BLAYNEY, Arthur, Esq., £6 6s. p. a.

MISS BLAYNEY of Shrewsbury, £30, which sum was expended in building upon Nos. 1 and 2 above.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES.

1842.—MORGAN, Richard Williams, St. David's College, Lampeter.

1863.—JENKIN, Evan Alfred, A.M., Gonville and Caius College Cambridge; Deacon, 1854; Pr. 1858. Formerly Curate of Devizes.

<sup>1</sup> Said to have been "originally built on the waste, and improved by the parish."

<sup>2</sup> Morris Morris Syer, of the Bronhavod estate, is said to have given about an acre and a quarter, known by the name of "The Poor Man's Piece," in the middle of Neuaddlwyd farm; and this was exchanged, by an award of the Enclosure Commissioners in 1815, for the above piece.

<sup>3</sup> Author of "Verities of the Church," 1849; "Ida de Galis," 1850; "Vindication of the Church of England against Rome," 1851; "Raymonde de Monthault," 1853; "Christianity and Modern Infidelity," 1855; "Church Pamphlets," 1855; "North Wales, or Venedotia," 1856; "Cambrian History," 1857.

MOUGHTRE.<sup>1</sup>

THIS is a mountainous parish consisting of the two townships of Moughtre-llan and Esgair-geiliog, and embracing an area of about 5,500 acres, of which some 3,000 acres were enclosed from the mountain waste in 1797. Its rateable value is £2,479, and the population 526.

In the time of Giraldus Cambrensis it is believed to have formed a portion of the parish as well as the lordship of Kerry, and owing to that circumstance<sup>2</sup> to have continued under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of St. David's until its recent transfer, in 1862, to this diocese. In 1287 Bishop Beck, of St. David's, appropriated it to the support of one of the twenty-two prebends in the collegiate church of St. Maurice, which he founded at Abergwili; its value at the time, as given in the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas,<sup>3</sup> being £3:6:8, minus 6s. 8d. for tenths. In accordance with this the *Valor Eccles.* of Henry VIII gives, under "Moghtre," the return, "Thomas Longe, prebendarius ibidem ex collacione Ep'i Meneven' *sub ecclesia collegiat' de Ab'guilly* valet com'unibus annis clare £1 7s.; inde x<sup>a</sup> 2s. 8½d." And so it continued until 1541, when "Henry VIII, thinking Abergwili an improper place for hospitality, and that some of the revenues of it might be much better employed, annexed it to his newly erected college at Brecknock."<sup>4</sup> Thenceforward a portion of the tithes formed the endowment of the prebendary of Moughtre in "the College of Christ in Brecknock," the cure of souls being discharged by a perpetual curate, whose income was derived partly from the remainder, and partly from other sources. A Return made in 1742, which gives £32 to the former, and £8 to the latter, had reference probably to the tithes alone, which have been commuted at £137:7:10½, five sixths of which in 1863 were attached to the perpetual curacy: besides which there were annual

	£	s.	d.
Rents of land in Moughtre . . . . .	20	0	0
"    "    Carno . . . . .	10	0	0
"    "    Radnorshire . . . . .	16	0	0
Interest on £905:4:8, Queen Anne's Bounty . . . . .	27	3	0
Part of Kerry tithes paid by Ecclesiastical Commissioners . . . . .	3	10	0
	<hr/>		
	£76	13	0

<sup>1</sup> *Alias* Moch-dre, the hamlet on the Moch, the small stream that flows down the valley; *cf.* Moch-nant. By an oversight this account was omitted in its proper place, p. 340.

<sup>2</sup> See under Kerry, p. 320.

<sup>3</sup> As no notice is there taken of the appropriation, it is evident that it had not yet taken effect.

<sup>4</sup> Tanner's *Notitia*.



On the death of the last prebendary (Jackson), his portion lapsed to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who have subsequently assigned it to the perpetual curacy, raising his income to £214 gross. There is no glebe house, but there are funds now available for building one. The patronage, which had previously attached to the prebendary of Mochtre, and the jurisdiction, which had hitherto been in the Bishop of St. David's, were by the recent Act both transferred to the Bishop of St. Asaph.

The church (All Saints, Nov. 1), which has been well and handsomely restored,<sup>1</sup> at an outlay of about £1,100,<sup>2</sup> and was reopened on the 27th June, 1867, consists of nave, chancel, and sacarium, raised above each other by steps; north vestry, south porch, and western bell-gable. The most striking feature, internally, is the handsome old Perpendicular roof, of fifteenth century work, with its moulded ribs and principals, its well carved bosses, its angel-corbels, and its wall-plates resting on carved heads. The octagonal font is also of similar date, and has the Tudor flower within a quatrefoil on each of its panels. The church is open-seated throughout, and the chancel furnished for the choir; the altar-rails handsome, and the Communion Table of open framework. The encaustic tiles throughout are the gift of the Rev. F. W. Parker, and the oak lectern the offering of his friends at Welshpool. The chancel window (Perpendicular), of three lights, is filled with memorial glass to Thomas Drew of Newtown (ob. 1855), and represents the Crucifixion. The west window, also of three lights, in memory of Jane and Susannah Hamer of Glanhafren, represents the Baptism of our Lord. A beautiful black-letter copy of the Welsh Prayer Book of 1664, which had long lain disused and neglected here, has lately been contributed to complete the series in the Cathedral Library of the diocese, where it has found an appropriate sanctuary. Other editions of 1690 and 1730 shew that at that time at least a considerable portion of the population were Welsh in thought and language as well as origin. The following extracts from the parish records, relative to alterations in the old church, are of some interest, and deserve to be recorded here:

“Jan. 9th, 1789.—The vestry agreed to build a new gallery from the singing gallery across the church, to join the old gallery; and all the seats under the old gallery to be removed, and benches to be fixed there in their room, ..... and to regulate the seats in the said church in the following order.

“May 15th.—Seats made in the chancel, north and south sides.

“1790.—The seats to be made uniform, and regulated after the rate of *one seat for every fifteen pounds tax*, and so on in proportion; each seat to be one yard wide, and three feet and a half high.”

<sup>1</sup> Under the care of E. Haycock, jun.

<sup>2</sup> Principal contributors: £400 and east window by Major Drew, £200 and west window by Miss Hamer of Glanhafren.

## PREBENDARIES OF MOUGHTRE.

1535.—LONGE, Thomas	—— DAVIES, Richard
166 .—THOMAS, Hopkin	1804.—JONES, John
1666.—WOOD, Jacob	1820.—JENKINS, John <sup>1</sup>
MORGAN, Charles	1830.—JACKSON, Jeremiah <sup>2</sup>
1765.—PROBERT, William	

## PERPETUAL CURATES.

- 1774.—WILLIAMS, John  
 1808.—WINGFIELD, Charles, V. Llanllwchaiarn, 1801-51  
 1822.—POWELL, Evan, V. Llanbister, 1839  
 1863.—PARKER, Fred. William, M.A., R. Aberhafesp, 1870  
 1870.—TOMPSON, John Edward, M.A., Ch. Ch., Oxford; Deac. 1860;  
 Pr. 1861; Curate, successively, of Bettws, Sealand, and Castle  
 Caereinion.

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<sup>1</sup> V. of Kerry, 1807.

<sup>2</sup> V. of Elm with Emneth, dioc. Ely.

## THE DEANERY OF DENBIGH.<sup>1</sup>

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WAS formed by the subdivision of the deanery of "Rhos and Rhyfoniog" (*Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas, A.D. 1291) or "Rhos" (*Valor Ecclesiasticus*, Henry VIII, A.D. 1535) into those of Denbigh and Llanrwst, by an Order in Council dated Dec. 13th, 1844, and gazetted Feb. 4, 1845. It embraces the parishes of Abergele, Bettws-yn-Rhos, Denbigh, St. George, Henllan and Bylchau and Trefnant, Llanddulas, Llanellian, Llanfair Talhaiarn, Llangernyw and Llanddewi, Llanefydd, Llansannan, Llysfaen, and Nantglyn.

### ABERGELE.

This large parish, stretching as it does from the Elwy to the sea, and from the Foryd to Llanddulas, is yet but a portion of an earlier and more extensive ecclesiastical district which embraced not only the present parishes of Abergele, Bettws, Llanddulas, and Llangwstenyn, but also, if we may believe a reasonable tradition, supported by geological evidence, a considerable tract of land to the north, which at some period or other (said to be about the eighth or ninth century) was overwhelmed by the sea.<sup>2</sup> The present extent of the parish is

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<sup>1</sup> In entering here on the history of the parishes in the county of Denbigh I have much pleasure in drawing attention to a kindred work by Messrs. Lloyd Williams and Underwood, architects, in illustration of the *Denbighshire Village Churches*, a prospectus of which has just been issued; and which, apart from its general interest, will have a special value for the possessors of this history, as illustrating the accounts here given of them.

<sup>2</sup> This is not the place to enter into a discussion of this question; but it may be well to note that the statement of the inscription on an old stone in the churchyard wall (whatever the original wording may have been, or the date to which it belonged), that "there lay the body of one whose dwelling had been three miles to the north," is countenanced by a general belief that many other parts of the coast, from the Point of Ayr, in Llanasa, to Cantre'r Gwaelod, near Harlech, have been destroyed by the sea,—by the disappearance of old landmarks, except at low water,—by the existence of submerged peat-mosses, with the trunks of great trees still in them, along parts

9,001 acres, and its rateable value £18,316. The townships are twelve in number, viz. Abergele (or Tre'r dre), Towyn (Upper and Lower), Bodoryn, Bodtegwâl, Hendregyda, Dolganed, Serior, Brynffanigl, Nant Dinbengron, Garthgogo, Gwrych, and Penrhyn Dulas. The population, according to the Census of 1871 (just taken), which will henceforward be followed in this History, is 3,193.

The earliest ecclesiastical notice we have connects this place with Elfod,<sup>1</sup> who is said to have granted some land, if not the site itself, for the church;<sup>2</sup> and if the name of the Holy Well ("Fynnon Eflo"), near Bryncoch, be, as has been supposed, a corruption of Elfod, then we may fairly conclude that this Elfod, who bore a prominent part in the early history of the British Church, was the evangelist and founder of the church of this place; and that its dedication to St. Michael was, though of an early, yet subsequent date.<sup>3</sup> The great tithes of the parish may have been, from the first, a portion of the common fund of the Cathedral Chapter; and they must have belonged to it before their appropriation to the office of the archdeacon, which was probably due to the influence of the noble house of Brynffanigl, one of whose members was bishop of this see A.D. 1240-49. The *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas (A.D. 1291) simply states that "*Ecclesia de Abergele cum capellâ suâ scilicet Langustenyn est annexa prebende archidiaconi*," and gives the value of the archdeacon's stall,—"*Canonia archid' in ipsa ecclesia et capellis suis...una cum rectoria ecclesie de Abergele, que est annexa dignitati sue archidiaconati*," as £34 : 6 : 8, minus £3 : 8 : 8 for tenths; the vicarial tithes being returned as worth £10, *decima* £1. At this time it would seem that there was no house for the vicar, and that he accordingly did not constantly reside; for in a Chapter holden in the parish church of St. Asaph, in "*capella nostra de Llanelwy*," in A.D. 1304, one David ap Kynwric was appointed to the vicarage on the condition that he should build *a suitable house*, and *reside therein*;<sup>4</sup> and from another entry of about the same date, or perhaps a little later, it would appear that the vicar's proportion of the tithes was one fourth,<sup>5</sup> which is rather less than the proportion given in the *Taxatio* of 1291, as well as in the *Valor Eccles.* of

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of the sea-line,—and especially by the abatement of quit-rent for Gronant-is-y-mor, made to Bishop John Trefor II on that very ground.

<sup>1</sup> Bishop in Holyhead ("Esgob ynghaergybi, in *Bonedd y Saint*"), afterwards Archbishop of North Wales (p. 18).

<sup>2</sup> "Yr Esgob Elfod a roddes lain o dir i'r Eglwys ar yr afon Gele."

<sup>3</sup> There are two other wells in the parish, closely connected with its early history, viz. Ffynnon y Saint and Ffynnon Dyfr (*i. e.* Deifr). "Y Groes lwyd" (the holy cross) bears a like relation.

<sup>4</sup> "Duximus memorandum quod *David ap Kynwric* habeat vicariam, quam tenuit *Kynwric Lloid*, in ecclesia de Abergeleu, et quod ibi sufficienter edificet et personaliter resideat." (*Llyfr Côch.*)

<sup>5</sup> "Licencia rectoris cuidam ad scholas D'm'e cum concessione rectorie de Abergeleu, excepta quarta parte que est vicarii." (*Llyfr Côch*, 20b.)



1535,<sup>1</sup> where the “rectoria” is returned as of the gross value of £40; and the “vicaria” of £13:6:8 gross, or £12:9:8 net; tenths, £1:4:11 $\frac{3}{4}$  to the King. In both returns, as nearly as can be, it is one third; and this is what it appears in the commutation, where £1,487 were assigned to the Bishop in virtue of the archdeaconry held *in commendam* (now in the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners,<sup>2</sup> who also hold some houses and cottages and four acres of glebe belonging to the rectory), £490 to the vicar, and £12 to the parish clerk, in lieu of the bell-sheaf (or “ysgub y glôch”). The vicar has, moreover, a good house, built in 1851 at a cost of £1,095, and one acre of glebe.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Michael (Sept. 29), follows the usual type of the churches of the Vale, and consists of two large and equal aisles of seven bays; the two easternmost of which were once screened off for the chancel, with chancel-aisle or chantry, now curtailed to the narrow compass of a few feet. A square tower, which was raised six feet higher, and greatly improved by the insertion of new windows and the addition of buttresses in 1861, stands at the west end of the north aisle; and the long outline of the south side is broken by a somewhat ill shaped modern porch. A curious doorway, of Cyclopean construction, formed of four large stones, and having a rudely carved head at the apex, has been closed up at the west end of the south aisle, and some early incised tombstones have been set up for their better preservation in the porch. Internally it is pewed throughout; an organ occupies the west end, and the pulpit and desk rest against the north wall. The pillars and arches were scraped and cleaned, and the oak principals of the roof repaired, in 1858.<sup>3</sup> The font dates from the Restoration, being inscribed with the wardens’ initials, 1663. There is a good deal of painted glass. Some fragments of early work, chiefly heads, are preserved in the vestry window; and the east window of the north aisle, which is Perpendicular, and of handsome design, is filled with memorial glass to the Lloyds of Gwrych. It was set up in 1857, and represents the patron saint of the church overcoming the dragon.<sup>4</sup> The chancel-window in the south

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<sup>1</sup>	<i>Rectoria valet in</i>					<i>Vicaria.</i>			
	Decimis grani et fœni	.	.	.	£29 14 5	...	£10 0 0		
	„ agnorum, lanæ	.	.	.	4 3 8	...	1 13 4		
	Oblacionibus et dec’ minutis	.	.	.	1 19 8	...	1 12 10		
	Diversis porcionibus (p. 199, n.)	.	.	.	4 2 3	...			
	Terra glebata	.	.	.		...	0 0 6		
					£40 0 0		£13 6 8		

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<sup>2</sup> They have promised an endowment of £300 p. a., contingent on the amount of the population, to a new district which it is proposed to form at Tywyn, where Mr. Bamford-Hesketh is now building a school, and intends to build a new church at his own expense.

<sup>3</sup> The cost of this was £316, chiefly defrayed by the Pentremawr family.

<sup>4</sup> Painted by Forest and Bromley, Liverpool.

aisle, which is of similar form, has been filled with emblematic subjects to represent the virtues of Justice, Temperance, Fortitude, Charity, Faith, Hope, and Truth, painted by Mrs. Jones-Bateman of Pentremawr to the memory of her husband, obiit 1849. A three-light window on the north side has for its subjects the Last Supper and the Agony. It is memorial to members of a family of Hughes, ob. 1816, 1854, and 1860. Near it has recently been inserted another, to which a mournful interest attaches on account of the terrible catastrophe by which the Rev. Sir Nicholas Chinnery and his wife, to whose memory it has been erected, lost their lives on the 20th Aug. 1868. In it is represented our Lord "Bearing His Cross," "Crucified," and "Rising again." In the churchyard also a monument of Aberdeen granite has been erected to mark the enclosure in which lie buried the thirty-three persons<sup>1</sup> who were then burnt to death through the ignition of some casks of paraffin on goods' trucks which slipped on to the line near Llanddulas, and came into collision with a passenger train. Near the same spot are also buried seven bodies that were washed ashore when the Ocean Monarch (emigrant ship) went on fire in the Bay, and 178 out of the 396 persons on board perished on 24 Aug. 1848. In the church are monuments to the families of Gwrych, Llwyni, Nant, Pentremawr, etc.; and a handsome brass has been set up to the memory of the Rev. Richard Jackson, who was vicar of this parish for fifty-three years, during the incumbency of no less than eight successive bishops of St. Asaph. He died in 1847, aged eighty-eight. Indeed, one notable feature of the parish is the extraordinary number of octogenarians who figure in the Register. The tower contains six bells,—a small one dated 1723, and five others, one of which is inscribed "Abraham Rudhall of Gloucester cast us all, 1730"; but the rest were recast,<sup>2</sup> in 1844, by Taylor and Sons, Loughborough, one of them bearing the words, "Os meum annuncia-bit laudem tuam"; and another, "Heddwch, dedwyddwch a chymmyd-gaeth dda." Among the Communion plate is a silver paten given by Bishop Barrow in 1685, and two flagons presented by vicar Stoddart in 1778.

A portion of the west end of the church was divided off, about eighty years ago, for a vestry and schoolroom; and there the school continued to be held until 1836, when a new school was erected in connexion with the National Society, on a site given by Sir John Hay Williams, Bart. These schools have again been superseded by some beautiful new ones for boys, girls, and infants, with class-room, lavatory, and master's house attached; which have been built at the sole expense of Mr. Bamford-Hesketh of Gwrych, who is also building a new school at Tywyn, and purposes erecting a new church for the

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<sup>1</sup> Among them were Lord and Lady Farnham, Sir Nicholas and Lady Chinnery, Judge Berwick, Capt. Priestley Edwards, W. Henry Owen, etc.

<sup>2</sup> They are said to have been cracked in sounding the alarm of the fire which destroyed Kinnel in 1841.

benefit of that portion of the parish. Two sums of £100 each were left to the school by Bishop Fleetwood and Mrs. Carter of Kinnel respectively; but having got into the hands of a Mr. Roberts, an attorney, who became bankrupt, there remains only the sum of £29, now in the National and Provincial Bank at Denbigh. A further sum of 10s., being the interest of £10 left for the same purpose by Mr. Edward Hughes of Tymawr Ucha, is annually paid by the tenant of that farm.

Some benefactions<sup>1</sup> enumerated on a tablet in the church, and amounting to £170,<sup>2</sup> were laid out at interest with Dr. Jones, the vicar, who on his death left a tenement called Penucha, in Tywyn, towards paying the interest.

The present acreage is 10 a. 11 p.; the gross value, £14 : 11 : 5; and rated at £13 10s. p. a.; besides 1 a. 39 p. sold to the Chester and Holyhead Railway Company, in 1845, for £149 5s., which, together with interest, has been invested in Consols., amounting to £205 : 8 : 3, for the benefit of the poor.

## VICARS.

1537.—GETHYN, John	1613.—PARRY, Gabriel, B.D. <sup>5</sup>
1556.—ROBERTS, John <sup>3</sup>	[1653.—CASTER, Thomas <sup>6</sup>
1570.—Hugh ab Owen	1657.—CONANT, John, D.D. <sup>7</sup> ]
Bishop Hughes <i>in com.</i>	1662.—PUGH, Henry, A.M. <sup>8</sup>
1582.—VAUGHAN, John	1672.—LLOYD, David, A.M. <sup>9</sup>
1611.—LLOYD, Richard, B.D. <sup>4</sup>	1675.—WILLIAMS, William <sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> One of £20, by Mad. Cath. Parry of Hendrefawr, has been lost.

<sup>2</sup> Including £60 each from Wm. Evans of Plas-ucha, and Peter Ffoulkes, of Cadwgan, gent.; and £25 from Grace Mellas of Glanywerglodd; and smaller sums.

<sup>3</sup> Deprived, but restored by Bishop Goldwell.

<sup>4</sup> Vicar of Gresford, 1613; Canon I, 1617.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llanrhaidr-yn-Mochnant, 1608; V. Henllan, 1609; V. Denbigh, 1613; Master of Ruthin School, and Precentor of Bangor.

<sup>6</sup> Put in by the Committee of Approvers.

<sup>7</sup> Dr. Conant, Rector of Exeter College, Oxford, 1649, and Regius Professor of Divinity, 1654, was ejected in 1662; but afterwards conforming, became a minister at Northampton, and was appointed in 1667 Archdeacon of Norwich, and in 1681 Prebendary of Worcester. Six volumes of his Sermons were edited by Bishop Williams in 1699.

<sup>8</sup> "Jacobus filius Henrici Pugh, vicarius de Abergele," was baptised in 1658; and "Henricus filius Henrici Pugh, vic." in 1659; so that Mr. Pugh, and not Mr. Gabriel Parry, must have been the deprived vicar; or, as is not unlikely, these and some other entries inserted in the new Register directly after the Restoration, related to things of which private records had been kept during the troubles of the preceding period.

<sup>9</sup> Prebendary of Faenol, 1671 (*v. p.* 246).

<sup>10</sup> V. Rhuddlan, 1678; Canon IV, 1679.



- 1684.—MAURICE, David, D.D.<sup>1</sup>      1742.—ANWYL, Lewis<sup>4</sup>  
 1702.—WILLIAMS, Peter      1776.—WILLIAMS, Evan<sup>5</sup>  
 1706.—GRIFFITHS, John<sup>2</sup>      1777.—STODART, William, A.M.<sup>6</sup>  
 1716.—JONES, Thomas, D.D.<sup>3</sup>      1794.—JACKSON, Richard, M.A.
- 1848.—MEREDITH, James, B.A., Trin. Coll., Dublin; Deacon, 1824;  
 Pr. 1825; vicar of Hope, 1836-48; Rural Dean, 1854; Hon.  
 Canon of St. Asaph, 1860.

## BETTWS.

THIS parish, which is in outline long and narrow (about seven miles by two and a half), is divided into the five townships of Peniarth, Bodlyman, Maesegwig, Cilcen, and Trofarth; with an area of 6,263 acres; 1 r. 13 p. of the rateable value of £4,304; population, 796.

It has already been stated that this was originally a portion of the district subject to the mother church of Abergele; and as is so often the case with places of this name, whatever its real derivation and meaning<sup>7</sup> may be, takes the dedication of the mother church, St. Michael, and has shared the same fortunes; for although in the Taxation of 1291 it is returned as distinct from it, with its "rectoria" taxed at £6:13:4; "decima," 13s. 4d.; and "vicaria" at £4:2:1; "decima," 8s. 2½d.; the rectory soon afterwards, like that of the mother church, became appropriated to the archdeaconry, and is so returned in the *Valor* of 1535, its value being £5; whilst the vicarage is reckoned at £12:15:3 clear, "minus £1:5:6¼ pro decima Regi." The commuted value<sup>8</sup> is £180:9:10 to the Bishop as Archdeacon,—now the Ecclesiastical Commissioners; £399:6:2 to the vicar, and £8 8s. to the parish clerk. There is also an excellent

<sup>1</sup> Son of Andrew Maurice, Dean of St. Asaph, and himself Prebendary of Faenold, 1691.

<sup>2</sup> R. Llanelian, 1683; V. Llangernyw, 1689.

<sup>3</sup> Son of Bishop Jones; Canon III, 1702.

<sup>4</sup> Previously P. C. of Yspytty.

<sup>5</sup> Vicar choral and schoolmaster at St. Asaph, 1763; V. Llanasa, 1775.

<sup>6</sup> V. Bettws, 1758; vicar choral, 1769; Canon, 1784.

<sup>7</sup> Besides the name "Bettws yn Rhos," from the deanery in which it is situated, and "Bettws Abergele," from its relation to that parish, it was also called, in former times, "*Bettws Wyrion Wgan*," apparently to distinguish it from Bettws y Coed, which was also called "*Bettws Wyrion Iddon*." (P. 317)

<sup>8</sup> In a terrier of 1729-30 it is stated that the rector had a portion of the tithes of Llaethfan township in Llanelian; and that the occupier of "Croes Engan," which is partly in Bettws, partly in Llansantffraid, sometimes pays all tithe-lambs to this parish, sometimes to Llansantffraid, a just division being not yet fixed.



vicarage house, built in 1861, on a new site, at a cost of about £1,700 (of which £900 were borrowed from Queen Anne's Bounty), in lieu of the old one<sup>1</sup> begun by vicar Jones, and finished by his successor,<sup>2</sup> together with four acres of glebe.

The old parish church having become very dilapidated, was taken down, and the foundation-stone of the new one laid July 19, 1838.<sup>3</sup> In 1853 the sittings were rearranged, and a new pulpit and desk set up; and in 1854 the chancel-apse was laid with encaustic tiles, and new altar-rails erected.<sup>4</sup> The church consists of nave with chancel-apse and a western gallery; and has a tower capped by two peculiar steeples of foreign character at the west end. The seats are open, and will hold 426, of which number 222 are free and unappropriated. The east window, of three lancets, is filled with memorial glass to "Mary wife of J. Lloyd Wynne, ob. 1844," and has for its central subject the Crucifixion, with the Birth and Baptism in the north light, and the Resurrection and Ascension in the other. Another window, on the north side, represents the Annunciation, and is a memorial to Frances Haggitt, who died at Coed Coch, ætat. eighty-one. The font was presented by Mr. C. Francis, of London, on the reopening of the church in 1839. The old one lies in the churchyard. The lectern and sedilia are of oak.

At Trofarth, a portion of the parish distant about four miles and a quarter from the parish church, a school was built in 1865, at a cost of £428 : 12 : 4; and a further sum of £256 was invested for an endowment;<sup>5</sup> so that it serves the double purpose of a school on week-

<sup>1</sup> The site of this has been added to the churchyard, and was consecrated in 1870.

<sup>2</sup> "Vicar Jones and Vicar Sampson  
Joined their pence to build this mansion."

As from the quotation given in Browne Willis,—"*Stare nequit uno cardine tanta domus*,"—this mansion would appear to have been of more than usual pretension, it may be interesting to quote from the description given of it in the terrier of 1729-30: "The Vicarage measures thirteen yards in length on the outside of the walls, and four yards and a quarter in breadth within the walls, and contains a narrow hall or passage, parlour, and a kitchen; all ceiled and plastered, and the two former *floored with lime*, with an upper room above each. Joining and across to which is a brewhouse measuring nine yards in length on the outside, and three yards in breadth within the walls; the bay next the house being parted from the rest by a partition, and serves for a buttery, and has a lumber-room above it; being all in good repair, and thatched with straw."

<sup>3</sup> The outlay was £756 : 15 : 8, towards which the local subscriptions were £324; the C. B. S., £150; and the St. Asaph C. B. S., £100; Rev. H. Holland Edwards, £50; and the deficiency by Mr. J. Lloyd Wynne, £52 : 13 : 4. The architect was Mr. J. Welch.

<sup>4</sup> These improvements were made by the Coed Côch family.

<sup>5</sup> Invested in the Delhi Railway Capital Stock. The chief items in the

days, and a church on Sundays. The site was given by Mr. Brownlow Wynne of Garthewin.

The new School, in lieu of the old one at Brynygroes, was built in 1861 at a cost of £918 18s., on a site given by Mr. J. Lloyd Wynne in addition to a subscription of £150.<sup>1</sup> It has a considerable endowment arising from a proportion of £31 10s. p. a., the rental of Ty-ucha, Maenan (given by Archdeacon Jones, of Bryneisteddfod, in exchange for Gyder, Dolwyd, and Rhydysaes, in Llansantffraid parish; which had been purchased in 1749 for £180, of which sum £100 belonged to the School,<sup>2</sup> and £80 to the poor<sup>3</sup>); £10, the rental of Aelwyd-ucha, on Moelfra Mountain, (37 a. 27 p.) allotted to the School in 1831; and the interest of a moiety of £700 left in 1816 by the Rev. Robt. Anwyl, vicar of the parish.<sup>4</sup>

A rent-charge of £5 p. a. on Penfford-deg, left by Mrs. Griffith, was discharged in 1832 by the acceptance of £100 from Mr. Hesketh of Gwrych; and of that sum £54:13:4 were expended in building some cottages for the poor on an allotment, and the residue in rebuilding the house on Dolwyd Farm, which had been destroyed by fire. The rent of three cottages at Tae'r-borth is £1 6s., and another at Bronllan 10s.; and there is also a rent-charge of 10s. on Penybryn, left by Edward Hughes. These sums, together with the proportion from Ty-ucha, Maenan, are disposed of in aid of the Clothing Club and other helps for the benefit of the poor.

## VICARS.

1537.—JOHN AP VACHAN or VAUGHAN <sup>5</sup>	1577.—OWEN, Hugh
1542.—ROBERT AB ST. EDWARD	1599.—WILLIAMS, Owen
1564.—POWEL, John <sup>6</sup>	1628.—LLOYD, Robert <sup>7</sup>
Hughes, Bp. <i>in commendam</i>	1638.—POWELL, Edward, A.M.
	1639.—PRITCHARD, Robert <sup>8</sup>

total of £684:12:4 were £200 by J. Lloyd Wynne of Coed Côch; £156, share of proceeds of a bazaar at Coed Côch; £60 by the Rev. J. Boulger of Pen-nant; and £50 by the Rev. H. E. Heaton, vicar.

<sup>1</sup> Other sums were, £140 from the sale of old School; £78, Rev. H. E. Heaton; £25 parish money; and £257, Privy Council.

<sup>2</sup> Of this sum, £50 was given by the Rev. Dr. Jones, late vicar; £10 each by Mr. Roberts and Mr. John Wynne; the rest in smaller sums.

<sup>3</sup> Including £50 by Mrs. Ffoulkes of Gwyndy-ucha, and £20 by Anne Ffoulkes of Trofarth.

<sup>4</sup> Invested in 3½ Consols. in 1853. One half the interest to the school-master here; and the other half between those at Abergele, Nannerch, and Llandrillo in Edeirnion.

<sup>5</sup> Sinecure R. Llandyssil.

<sup>6</sup> Vic. Llanrwst, 1537; R. Llanddoget and V. Llangernyw, 1551; Canon, 1552; V. Llanasa, 1564.

<sup>7</sup> V. Llanasa, 1614; V. Chirk, 1615; V. Llanrwst, 1619; V. Cwm, 1620; R. Llandyssil, 1625.

<sup>8</sup> R. Mallwyd, 1644.

- 1641.—PRICE, Richard, A.M.      1758.—STODART, William, A.M.<sup>7</sup>  
 1666.—JONES, David<sup>1</sup>      1793.—WILLIAMS, Peter<sup>8</sup>  
 1684.—OWEN, Oliver<sup>2</sup>      1799.—EVANS, Edward  
 1684.—MAURICE, David, D.D.<sup>3</sup>      1811.—ANWYL, Robert<sup>9</sup>  
 1702.—JONES, Thomas, D.D.<sup>4</sup>      1815.—HOWARD, Richard, D.D.<sup>10</sup>  
 1717.—ROBERTS, Sampson<sup>5</sup>      1818.—MASON, John, M.A.<sup>11</sup>  
 1727.—WYNNE, Richard, A.M.      1826.—PHILLIPS, Robert<sup>12</sup>  
 1738.—EDWARDS, George      1851.—EVANS, Evan, B.A.<sup>13</sup>  
 1742.—JEFFEREYS, Thomas<sup>6</sup>      1858.—HUMPHREYS, Owen Jones,  
 1746.—PRICE, James      A.M.<sup>14</sup>
- 1859.—HEATON, Hugh Edward, M.A., Jesus Coll., Oxford; Scholar;  
 B.A. 1844; Deac. 1845; Pr. 1846; Curate of Mold, 1845-52;  
 P. C. Llangedwin, 1852-9.

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### DENBIGH.

THE earliest name of this place was *Caledfryn* ("the rocky hill");<sup>15</sup> a name which, true to the genius of Welsh topology, is accurately descriptive of its natural features, and belongs to a period when these were its chief characteristics; but one which gradually gave way to the military title of *Dinbych* ("the hill-fort"),<sup>16</sup> from the time that its strong position and strategic importance began to be realised.<sup>17</sup> It is

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<sup>1</sup> Vicar choral and R. Llansantffraid, G. Conway, 1640. Deprived.

<sup>2</sup> V. Llanasa, 1684; R. Halkin, 1694.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llanasa, 1666; V. Abergele, 1684; Prebendary of Faenol, 1691.

<sup>4</sup> V. Abergele, 1716 (*q. v.*)

<sup>5</sup> R. Llanelian, 1689-1727.

<sup>6</sup> Vic. chor. 1738.      <sup>7</sup> Vic. chor. 1769; V. Abergele, 1777; Canon, 1783.

<sup>8</sup> Vic. chor. 1775, and Master of the Grammar School.

<sup>9</sup> R. Llandrillo in Edeirnion, 1776; R. Nannerch, 1799; chaplain to Lord Kirkwall.

<sup>10</sup> R. Denbigh, 1818; R. Beamaris, 1826; V. Llanrhaiadr, 1843.

<sup>11</sup> R. Bodvari, 1812-18. Author of *Welsh Sermons*, 2 vols., 1830.

<sup>12</sup> R. Llanyceil, 1819-26. Compiler of *Casgliad o Salmau a Hymnau*, 1853.

<sup>13</sup> V. Pennant-Melangel, 1826; V. Llanarmon-yn-Iâl, 1831.

<sup>14</sup> R. Llanddulas, 1849; R. Caerwys, 1859.

<sup>15</sup> *E. g.* "Caledfryn yn Rhos," the rocky hill in the country of Rhôs, the moorland.

<sup>16</sup> The first syllable is common to many similar positions in the neighbourhood, *e. g.*, Dinorben, Dinhengron, Dincolyn, Dinmeirchion, Dinmael, etc. The second is of unknown, or at least of greatly disputed, meaning. "Dinbych-y-Pysgod" is the Welsh name for Tenby.

<sup>17</sup> If one may hazard a conjecture as to this time, it would be that following on the departure of the Strath Clyde Britons from the Vale,—an event which would make room for the transfer to this new home of the settlement or tribe which had previously held sway at its older namesake in the hills,—



to this twofold aspect, the civil and military, that we must look for the clue to its earlier ecclesiastical history; for whilst we have the latter represented in St. Hilary's, the ancient garrison chapel within the walls; the parish church of St. Marcella, or Llanfarchell (now Whitchurch), more than a mile from the town, belongs to a period unaffected by, because anterior to, its foundation. In ecclesiastical documents, which are of a more conservative character, the name Denbigh, for the parish, hardly occurs before the middle of the fourteenth century. Thus in the *Taxatio* of 1291 it is "ecclesia de *Llanwarchell* taxatur £4 10s., dec. 9s."; and in a document<sup>1</sup> of 1294, "Llanwarchell juxta Denbigh"; and it is not till the grant of the advowson to the Bishop of St. Asaph, in 1335, that we have "ecclesia de *Denbigh*"; whilst, again, in a notice of the celebrated Archbishop Chicheley the earlier name is still employed,—"*Pastor fuit ecclesie de Lanvarchell*," c. A.D. 1400; and in the *Valor Eccles.* of 1535 it is "*Rectoria de Denbigh alias Saynet M'cell*." From which time Denbigh is the only name used.

The terms of the above grant, as it is called, imply that there had been a dispute as to the right of patronage, and are in reality an acknowledgment of the Bishop's right<sup>2</sup> of presentation to the rectory. As to the vicarage there appears to have been no doubt. Their respective value, as given in the *Valor*, were

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
"Rectoria valet clare, 15	2	2	...	inde pro decima parte Regi,	1	10	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Vicaria        ,,        ,,	8	10	2	,,        ,,        ,,	0	17	0 $\frac{1}{4}$ ."

Besides which there was "*Libera capella infra Castrum de Dynbigh ex fundacione Domini Regis (£8; decima, 16s.)*"; which, I think, must clearly be St. Hilary's, or the garrison chapel; of which it is stated in De Bokeley's *Survey*, made in the year 1334, that "they find one chaplain to celebrate divine service in the Chapelle of Dynbiegh within the walls, for the lord, his predecessors and successors in perpetuity." The erection and reparation of this chapel devolved upon the free and native tenantry of the commote of Isaied from the time of the sovereign princes of Wales.<sup>3</sup>

There were other chapels also before the Reformation; but none of the others equally meet the description. Such was the domestic or

"Yr hen Ddinbych,"—on the line of the Roman road from Bodvari, by Ystrad, to Penygaer, near Cerrig-y-drudion, where four such roads met each other.

<sup>1</sup> "*Collacio Ecclesie de Llanwarchell juxta Denbigh Wmo. de Dymbych per eundem Ep'um (Llewelyn ap Ynyr, de Bromfield) in die Epiph. 1294, Cons. 2o.*"—*Llyfr Cêch*.

<sup>2</sup> "*Recognovimus advocacionem Rectoriæ.....et jus Lewelini Episcopi As-sav.....et ecclesie suæ predictæ remisimus, et quiete clamamus.*" (Browne Willis, *Append. xxviii, 76.*)

<sup>3</sup> Williams, *Records of Denbigh*, p. 211.



private chapel within the Castle, which is thus described in a survey taken in 1562: "Next to that tower (Badness), in the east part, is a fair chapel called 'The Queen's Chapel,' seven yards in length and five in breadth; fair, vaulted with stone, and covered with lead."<sup>1</sup> Some of the springers of the vaults, with their carved corbels, are still visible; but whether they be those of the actual chapel, or the crypt beneath, admits of some doubt. Leland, again, writing about 1540, mentions another,—“a chapelle of ease, in the middle of the new towne, of St. Anne. One Fleming was the builder of this; and yet it is caulled 'Capelle Fleminge, and yt is of a good largenes.”<sup>2</sup> Besides these there was the Chapel of the Carmelite, or White Friars, at the east end of the town, which, although then within the parish of Henllan, was practically in Denbigh,<sup>3</sup> but does not require our consideration here. And Camden, writing about the year 1607, further notes that “the church (St. Hilary's) not being large enough, they have *now* begun to build a new one where the old towne stood; partly at the charges of their Lord Robert Earl of Leicester, and partly with the money contributed for that use by several well disposed persons throughout England.”<sup>4</sup> The foundation-stone was laid on the 1st of March, 1579 (St. David's Day), and the work was carried on under the direction of Bishop Wilson of Winchester; but Leicester, having incurred the hatred of the people by his tyranny, stopped its further progress; and the money which was collected to complete it, being lent to the Earl of Essex when he passed through on his Irish expedition, was never repaid, and the church was never finished. It consisted of a nave 180 feet long, with two aisles of equal length; was 75 feet wide, and is said to have been nearly completed. The pillars as well as the walls were standing in the time of Bishop Tanner (1731-5); but the stones were being carried away by the inhabitants. The fine ruin between St. Hilary's and the Castle House is all that now remains of what is said to have been the first Protestant ecclesiastical building commenced in the kingdom, and to have been intended to supersede the Cathedral at St. Asaph!

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<sup>1</sup> Williams, *Ancient and Modern Denbigh*, p. 95. To this and the *Records of Denbigh* I would express my obligations for the greater part of the information contained in this brief account.

<sup>2</sup> Leland's *Itinerary*, v, 61. "There was an Almas-House hard by the Chapple of Ease, 'ex saxo quadrato,' of squared or hewn stone, made by Fleming, but now yt is desolate." Mr. Williams believes that "the old houses in Highgate, built with hewn stone and with fragments of sculptured corbels, are the old almshouse"; and also states that a remnant of the foundation wall of St. Anne's Chapel may be seen in the cellars of the Chirk Castle Arms. (*A. and M. Denbigh*, p. 324.) Subsequent alterations, however, have concealed it from view; unless one large stone, high up in the wall, be what he referred to.

<sup>3</sup> It has recently been transferred to it.

<sup>4</sup> Camden's *Britannia*, ii, 819.

The rectory and vicarage, which had shared the tithes in the proportion of two-thirds and one-third, were united by Bishop Barrow's Act in 1678; and their present value, according to the commutation, is £400; to which a rent-charge of £65 was added, with the transfer of a portion of the parish of Henllan, in 1855. The rector has also an excellent new house built in 1864 at a cost of £2,300, and a quarter of an acre of glebe.

The area of the parish is 1,472 acres; its rateable value, £9,359 15s.; and the population of the ecclesiastical parish, 4,563, inclusive of the part recently added from Henllan. Patron, the Bishop.

There are three churches in the parish :

### (1.) LLANFARCHELL,<sup>1</sup> *alias* WHITCHURCH.<sup>2</sup>

THIS is a large church of Perpendicular character, and of the Clwydian type, consisting of two equal and parallel aisles separated by light octagonal pillars. There is no division, internal or external, to distinguish the chancel from the nave; the handsome screen, which in early Welsh churches supplied the place of the chancel-arch, having been removed,—the central portion to mark the entrance to the tower at the west end of the north or chancel-aisle, and other portions used as a reredos and as ornamental bands upon the altar-rails. The hammer-beam roof of both aisles is of good design and workmanship, and is set off with much quaint and curious carving. The hammer-beams themselves have lost their ornamental corbels; but their pendant posts rest upon stone corbels between the springers of the arches, sculptured with shields and with animal and human figures. The rafters also end in bosses of grotesque animal forms. There are two exceptions, however, on the north side of the north aisle, which probably have a historical significance: one of them a mitred head, which may represent the munificent Chicheley, the founder of Bernard's and All Souls' College at Oxford, and the beautifier of his own cathedral at Canterbury, who had been at one time pastor of this parish; whilst the other, a female head wearing a crown, may have been intended to honour Margaret Countess of Derby,—a noble church builder in the fifteenth century, the period of this work. The wall-plate has a hollow groove ornamented with grotesque figures of animals; which,

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<sup>1</sup> Marchell, in the sixth century, is said to have been the sister of Dihaer and Tyrnog, the founders of the neighbouring churches of Bodvari and Llandyrnog. She also gave a name to Ystrad Marchell, where the Abbey of Strata Marcella, or Ystrad Marchell, was afterwards founded, near Welshpool; and had a chapel named after her at Llanrwst, "Capel Marchell."

<sup>2</sup> This is a comparatively modern name, for it is nowhere met with before the Reformation, and is probably derived either from its external colouring, or its fair proportions within. The supposition that it was so "called from having been a conventual church of the White Friars," is not borne out by fact, as it never was such.

however, have become much obscured by successive coats of white-wash. The east windows have the same Perpendicular form and tracery, but the southern one is of greater height. Those on the south side have no foliated tracery, but their labels terminate in bosses of corresponding character to those of the roof; one of them, a shears, representing probably the guild or "Companye of Taylors"; and two others, the Tudor rose and the fleur-de-lis, indicating their age. Those of the north side are of an older period. An inscription formerly existing in one of the windows of the church, testified to the existence here of an almost forgotten pastime which enjoyed something of the reputation of the old guilds,—“Orate pro John Smallwoode, *Ma'er of Misrule*, and all other young men ..... caused this window to be glazed.”<sup>1</sup> The bell, which is inscribed “Canwn fawl i'r Arglwydd, 1683,” was brought down, it would appear from the Vestry Book, from St. Hilary's.<sup>2</sup>

Some of the monuments are of much historic interest. In the porch one of the rare portrait-brasses of that age, to the memory of Richard Myddelton, Governor of Denbigh Castle during the reigns of Edward VI, Mary, and Elizabeth (ob. 1575), represents him with his nine sons<sup>3</sup> behind him, and his wife with her seven daughters, all in a kneeling posture; and beneath, some quaint lines rehearsing his virtues. In the church a mural monument commemorates the learned antiquary, Humphrey Llwyd, M.A., of Brasenose College, Oxford, and M.P. for Denbigh, 1563. He is represented in a Spanish dress, and kneeling; but the monument is not worthy of the varied and extensive learning of the man.<sup>4</sup> On a richly coloured altar-tomb, in alabaster, standing in the middle of the south aisle, near the east end (probably at one time a family chapel to Lleweni), are recumbent effigies of Sir John Salusbury of Lleweni, commonly known as “Sir John y Bodiau,” who is represented as a knight in full armour; and “Dame Jane, his wieff,” by his side. On one side of the tomb are

<sup>1</sup> A member of this family lies buried in the churchyard of St. Asaph, under a stone which bore a shield with a lion rampant, and the inscription, “Hic jacet Ranulfus de Smalwode.” For an account of the “Lord of Misrule,” see Brand's *Popular Antiquities*, iii, 497. Bohn.

<sup>2</sup> The lead roof of the tower and eastern end of the south aisle was removed hither, in 1672, from the Burgess or Exchequer Tower of the old Castle, which had been the county prison when the assizes were held at Denbigh.

<sup>3</sup> Several of these became very distinguished men. *William*, the third son, a sea captain, was the first to translate the *Psalms into Welsh Metre*, and wrote *Barddoniaeth, or the Art of Welsh Poetry*. *Sir Thomas*, the fourth, became Lord Mayor of London, founder of the Chirk Castle family, and, with Rowland Heylin, went to the joint expense of the *first portable edition of the Bible and Prayer Book in Welsh*, 1630; and *Sir Hugh*, the sixth, who brought the New River to London.

<sup>4</sup> For his life and writings, see Williams' *Eminent Welshmen*.



figures of their eight sons, and on the other of their four daughters. At the head and foot are quarterings and armorial bearings. He died in 1578, and this tomb was erected by his widow ten years after; but the date of her death, which she left blank, was never afterwards put in. Near this is a mural monument to Hester, the daughter of Sir Thomas Salisbury, and wife of Sir Robert Cotton of Combermere, who died in 1710.<sup>1</sup> On the western wall a marble tablet has been set up by the Gwyneddigion Society in honour of "Thomas Edwards, Nant, Bardd rhagorol yn ei oes," obiit 1810, best known as "Twm o'r Nant."<sup>2</sup> In the churchyard lies the first man to set up a printing press in Denbigh, Thomas Jones, the author of an English-Welsh Dictionary, *Drych y Merthyron*, etc. Of the other monuments it need only be added, that tombstones of a more Christian type, and the planting of flowers and shrubs, promise to give a more decorous and reverent appearance to the burial-ground, which was enlarged in 1811 and 1858; and consecrated, the first by Bishop Cleaver, the latter by Bishop Short.<sup>3</sup>

Owing to the distance of this church from the town, St. Hilary's has long supplanted it as the parish church; and no services, except funerals, have been held here since the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts in 1828, up to which time the corporate officers used to attend once a year to take the Sacrament in it as the actual parish church.

## (2.) ST. HILARY'S.<sup>4</sup>

THIS is the "Libera Capella" of the *Valor Eccles.*, 26 Henry VIII, and was originally the garrison chapel of the Castle,<sup>5</sup> but also used by the English families introduced into the town in connexion therewith. After the Reformation, however, and the consequent dissolution of the Abbey and of St. Anne's Chapel (which was most likely served by the members of the Abbey), it became the only church in the town; and we find that each of the seven incorporated companies or guilds

<sup>1</sup> She was the ancestress of that distinguished soldier, Field Marshal the Right Hon. Viscount Combermere, G.C.B., G.C.H., K.S.I., who was born at Lleweni in 1773, died 1865.

<sup>2</sup> He was brought up as a mason, but possessing a strong poetic genius, chiefly of a Hudibrastic or satirical type, he became distinguished for the composition and acting of interludes, comic pieces, and dramas. His principal work was *Gardd o Gerddi*. He has been called the Cambrian Shakespeare, but Butler (Hudibras) is nearer his type.

<sup>3</sup> The land on this occasion (1 a. 1 r. 20 p.) was given by Mr. Hughes of Kinnel.

<sup>4</sup> Eleri (Hilarius, St. Hilaire, St. Helier, St. Hilary) had churches at Llanrhos and Pennant Gwytherin.

<sup>5</sup> The tradition is that the garrison chapel was what is now the chancel, and that the room below, or crypt, was the guard-house.



of mercers, hammermen, gloves, weavers, corvisors, tanners, and tailors, paid £4 per annum to have Matins, or Morning Prayers, read here in Welsh every Sunday morning for the benefit of their servants.<sup>1</sup> The toll of oatmeal sold within the borough was also given to the clergyman for reading prayers here on Wednesday morning, before the opening of market; on which occasion the aldermen, warners, and watchers of the guild attended. And legacies were left for catechetical lectures during Lent, and a Welsh sermon at Easter.<sup>2</sup>

The church consists of chancel, nave, and west tower, coeval with the Castle; and a north aisle added in the last century. Leland notices it as in his time (c. A.D. 1540) "very large and well servid," and adds that in it "every Sunday prayers are made for Lacey and Percy",<sup>3</sup> in the former of whom we may, doubtless, recognise its rebuildler, and in the latter a liberal benefactor. It appears to have suffered very considerably during the siege of the Castle by the Parliamentary forces, for in 1670 a "ley" or tax of £60 was imposed by the "Court of Convocation" upon the inhabitants and landholders of the parish for its repair;<sup>4</sup> and nine years later one of the windows was removed, and the roof repaired. The font dated from the same period, 1662. In 1713 it was ordered in vestry "that benches should be set up in the waste ground of the said chapel, for the use of the common people of the parish; and locked pews for the better accommodation of the gentlemen, tradesmen, and other principal inhabitants." This was followed in 1737 by another order, to close the south door, and substitute a convenient window; and that Rees Ffoulkes, gent., be at liberty to set up a seat in the vacant space next adjoining the one he already had. About the same time it was also ordered that the singers should erect a gallery on the north side, between the arch and the body of the chapel, over the common seats, of ten feet high; and that they be allowed what old timber, wainscoat, and other materials, that be useless in the said chappell." And in 1769 permission was further given them to "enclose that part of it where they now sing, in the *south isle*,<sup>5</sup> and make it to their own liking, at their

<sup>1</sup> In 1749 the services were twice daily in English, and thrice on Sundays. Welsh at nine A.M., and English at eleven and three. (MS. Book Z.) The Welsh morning service has only been discontinued within present memory.

<sup>2</sup> The lectures were discontinued in 1827, and two sermons given every Sunday instead; but the oatmeal-tax was no longer paid.

<sup>3</sup> Henry de Lacey began to rebuild the Castle in 1284. Henry Percy (*Hotspur*) was Governor 1377-1403.

<sup>4</sup> "Ffor as much as it had lately fallen down." This may have been the roof, or perhaps the north aisle; but could not have been the chancel or nave, which are of a much older date.

<sup>5</sup> This helps to fix the date of the north aisle between 1736 and 1769, and corresponds with a manuscript note of Bishop Tanner: "Too small and dark. New isle to be built." (Z.)

own expense, but not to claim it as their own private property." Of the four bells, one is inscribed in old English letters, "Dominus tecum"; one, "God save His Church, 1684"; and another, the wardens' names and the date 1758; in which year the pulpit and reading-desk were also erected, but they have since been removed and remodelled twice, 1827 and 1831. In 1811 a proposal was made to build a south aisle and erect a gallery at the west end,—the latter only was carried out; and in 1813 an organ was set up in it, the gift of Lord Kirkwall, M.P. for the borough. The same year, too, some of the free seats therein were sold by auction for nearly £500. The last outlay was about £200, in 1854, laid out on external repairs. Internally the church is occupied throughout with pews of very ordinary character; but one oak standard of the Tudor period, now at the west end of the north aisle, survives to shew the excellent workmanship that once adorned the stalls of the choir. The Communion Table has also some handsome carving of the Jacobean period, and bears the date 1628. The Glastonbury chairs were presented in 1848. The altar-cloth is part of an early "dorsal,"<sup>1</sup> on which the sacred monogram is inwoven, surrounded by glories, and interlaced with the motto, "Spes mea in Deo est, 1330," the whole surrounded with a border of flowers. It was brought here from Whitechurch, and is said to have been rescued from the spoils of the Abbey.<sup>2</sup> On each side of the chancel-arch are two squints, *i. e.*, openings to enable persons in the nave or aisles to see the elevation of the Host at the high altar. These openings, though common in some parts, especially in the neighbourhood of Tenby, are very rare in this diocese. The arch itself is early Pointed, like the priest's door and the windows of the chancel and the south aisle, those on the north side being round-headed. Beneath the chancel is a crypt, in which the grammar school was held until of late. Owing to the want of free accommodation, and to the great difficulty of access to this church, a new one is being built in Henllan Place; the corner-stone laid by Miss Mesham, July 6th, 1871.<sup>3</sup>

### (3.) ST. DAVID'S,

OR, as it should perhaps be called, "*New St. David's*," in contradistinction to the unfinished edifice near the castle, was built from the

<sup>1</sup> The hanging behind the choir-stalls, or an altar. An illustration of it appeared in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1846.

<sup>2</sup> An inventory of the "stuffe delyvered to the Bishop of Saynt Assaph" at the Dissolution, mentions, among other things, "j olde vestement, syngle, of grene, with a red offeras with starres, iiiid.; a little clothe to hange before the roode, id.; a coveringe with imags, viiid." (*Arch. Camb.*, 1871, xlii.)

<sup>3</sup> Architects, Messrs. Lloyd Williams and Underwood. Plan,—chancel, nave, and side-aisles; accommodation, 700; estimated cost, £4,500; total subscriptions, £3,970; *e. g.*, Miss Mesham, £800 and organ (£300); P. H. Chambres, Esq., £500 towards site; twelve donors of £100 each; St. Asaph Church Building Society, £150, etc.

plans of Mr. Thomas Penson, on a site given by Captain Mostyn, R.N., of Segroit, begun in 1838, and consecrated by Bishop Carey, 13th December, 1840. It consists of a nave (having at the west end and both sides a gallery), a small apse, a vestry on the south side, and a tower at the west end, which, however, was not finished until 1858,<sup>1</sup> and was originally intended to have been surmounted by a spire. The church is pewed throughout, to accommodate 828, of which 426 are free; and the pulpit and desk stand in tiers in the central. An organ, the gift of Jane Lloyd, of Pentre Gwyddel, who died in 1845, occupies the western gallery; and the east window of three lights has been filled with memorial glass to "Mary Tatlock," who died at Plas Clough in 1857. The glass is by Ballantine, of Edinburgh, and has for its subjects—in the upper division, Faith, Hope, and Charity; and in the lower, three of the Acts of Mercy. The cost of the church, exclusive of the churchyard walls, was £3,645 : 6 : 2. In addition to the pew rents, £250 have been invested in the three per cent. consols for the endowment, but it is now a chapel of ease subject to the Rector.

There is also a pretty little chapel attached to the Asylum.

*The Grammar School.*—The return of Bishop Richard Davis to Archbishop Parker in 1560, mentions among the Canons of St. Asaph one Galfridus or Geoffrey Gethin, whom a later hand described as "Ludimagister de Denbighe"; and Sir Richard Clough, who died in 1570, is said to have left a sum of money towards the founding, or the maintenance of a free school here, but there is much uncertainty about the whole matter.<sup>2</sup> A charter of Charles II in 1661 empowered the aldermen, bailiffs, and burgesses who were desirous "to found and maintain one Free Grammar School within the borough," to hold property to the value of £40 per annum for that purpose. But, although from this time a school appears to have existed here, it received no endowment till 1726, when Mr. Robert Lloyd conveyed Cae-hir, now called *Acr y Forwyn*, in Henllan parish, "towards the maintenance of a Free Grammar School to be set up and erected"; and in 1727 a cottage and lands called *Graig*, in Tremeirchion, were bought for £330 : 0 : 0,

<sup>1</sup> This was done at the cost of Mr. Hughes of Ystrad.

<sup>2</sup> In his will it is said to be £100 towards *founding*. Fuller says it was the impropriation of Kilcen, worth £100 per ann.; and a minute of the Town Council (1640) refers to it as £100; but the benefaction-table in the church calls it £200 towards the maintenance of a free school. As to the impropriation of Kilcen, it never was an *impropriation*; and had it been, its value would not have risen so very much beyond the £16 returned as its gross value in 1535. Whatever it was, the benefaction was lost. Possibly the bequest of Sir Richard and the *appropriation* of the rectorial tithes of Cilcain may have been conditional on the establishment here of the Cathedral Grammar School, which the Royal Visitors under Edward VI recommended to be continued at St. Asaph; but the Privy Councillors in 1548 consented to have transferred to Denbigh, and which was finally ordered to be at St. Asaph. (MS. E.)



raised by subscription,<sup>1</sup> towards the setting up of the school and the maintenance and support of the master. The extent of the above lands, together with their allotments, is 36a. 0r. 37p., and their present rental £53. By the new scheme of the Charity Commissioners, issued 24th November, 1865, there are to be eight governors; the Mayor and Rector to be *ex-officio* members; twelve foundation scholars resident within the borough; a preference so far as accommodation will permit to children of inhabitants of Denbigh, Henllan, and Llanrhaidr; the religious instruction to be according to the principles of the Church of England; and the head-master and usher to be members thereof; and the former also a graduate of Oxford, Cambridge, or Dublin. The present head-master is the Rev. John Harris Roberts, M.A., Clare College, Cambridge.

*The Blue Coat School*, now merged in *The National School*.—Towards the beginning of the last century Mrs. Oldfield left to the Bishop of St. Asaph and the Rector of Denbigh “some messuages, tenements, and lands in Llanrhaidr for the maintenance, schooling, and education of ten or more boys of labouring men or poor tradesmen of Denbigh, who should be taught in a school by themselves, and not be sent to the public schools (*i.e.*, apparently the Free Grammar School), and twenty shillings thereout to be given to the Rector for preaching a Charity Sermon the first Sunday in Lent.” To this sum Mr. Morgan Evans added £200 in three per cent. consols; and Mr. Richard Wilding, of Llanrhaidr Hall, in 1815 gave a quillet of land called Drilliau, in Abergele parish, which he bought for £30. This school is now amalgamated with the National School,<sup>2</sup> for which a new building was erected in 1847 on the site of the ancient Lenten Pool.<sup>3</sup> Twenty poor boys, chosen for their good conduct from the rest of the school, are clothed and educated as blue-coat boys on the old foundation. The sources of its endowment are as follows:—

Mrs. OLDFIELD.—Craiglwyd Farm, 40 a. 27 p.; Llwyn Bach Farm, 25 a. 1r. 4 p.; Cae crwn Farm, 5 a. 3 r.; Pentre, 3 a. 12 p.; allotments to above, 21 a. 3 r. 24 p.

Mr. WILDING.—Drilliau, 2 r.

Mr. MORGAN EVANS.—£200 Red. 3 per Cents.; £145:5:6 accumulated int. of ditto in ditto; mortgage of £106 on tolls believed to be part of Mrs. Oldfield's.

*Howell's School*.—This charity is founded on the will of Thomas Howell, a Monmouthshire man, a merchant at Seville in Spain, who in 1540 bequeathed 12,000 ducats of gold to the Drapers' Company

<sup>1</sup> The whole amounted to £339 12s., the chief contributor being Sir John Trevor for £106. Every £5 was considered to confer a nomination to the school.

<sup>2</sup> A similar arrangement has taken place in the case of Dr. Daniel Williams' school and the British and Foreign School.

<sup>3</sup> Hence it is sometimes called “Ysgol Pwll y Garawys”; but the name is more probably a corruption of *Llyn-din*, *i. e.*, “the castle pool.”



of London, to be invested by them so as to produce 400 ducats of yearly rental, to be disposed of among four maidens being orphans of his blood and kin, on their marriage each to have 100 ducats; and failing them, to other four maidens, being orphans and of good fame, to the same intent: the number to increase with the value of the property. The founder's family were early lost sight of, and the trust became the subject of litigation in Chancery so early as 1559. The money was invested by the Company in purchases in the city of London; which became of very great value, but the funds were kept distinct until 1843, when a scheme for their application was promoted by the Crown, and finally settled in 1853. By this scheme it was ordered that two schools for female orphans should be established—one in North Wales, the other in South Wales. As regards the former, this at Denbigh, it was settled that twenty-five orphans, from seven to twelve years of age, elected by the Drapers' Company from candidates recommended by the local governors, should be wholly maintained and educated till they are eighteen, and should receive £100 on their marriage. Besides these, thirty girls (called pay boarders) chosen by the local governors, receive their education free, on paying £20 for their board; and there are also twenty day scholars, also admitted by the same authority. The schools were completed and handed over to the governors 1st December, 1859, and opened 8th May, 1860. The course of instruction embraces the principles of the Christian religion, reading, writing, arithmetic, English grammar, geography, history, music, drawing, and such other subjects, including languages, as the governors shall direct. The staff of teachers consists of a head-mistress, four governesses, and two assistant-teachers. The local governors, sixteen in number, chosen by the Drapers Company, must be resident within the counties of Denbigh or Flint; and the Bishop of St. Asaph to be *ex-officio* chairman at all their meetings.

*General Charities.*—Other charities of this parish, once considerable, are now reduced to a very small amount. An inquisition taken in 1640 set out various bequests then in various stages of abuse, amounting in the whole to upwards of £400; and the decree, dated 13 July, 1655, "ordained that various parties therein named should replace certain sums therein also specified, and which were stated to be different portions of moneys left to charitable uses. The amount thus secured was nearly £500." "Besides these, there have been many of subsequent date,<sup>1</sup> amounting to at least £800, exclusive of the £200 to the Grammar School, all of which have been lost or improperly appropriated." The Parliamentary Returns of 1786 record only £315 as then possessed (of which only £215 were then paying interest), and two rent-charges of ten shillings per ann. each. Nothing now remains but the two rent-charges (1837).

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<sup>1</sup> There is a table on the south wall of the chancel of St. Hilary's, which was set up in 1720, and gives the "names of the benefactors to this town of Denbigh." (*A. and M. Denbigh*, p. 274.)

The other charities belonging to the poor, mentioned in the Charity Report, are :

Tenement in Sandy Lane, bought in 1728 for £12 : 12 : 1.

Rent-charge of £1 10s. on Glythau in Nantglyn, by Evan Hughes, 1727.

„ „ £2 on Ty Angharad in Llanrhaidr. Donor unknown.

Chief rent, £1, on a house in High Street.

„ 6s. 8d. on a house in Sandy Lane.

Rent-charge, £2 10s., Cae Cockshutt.

„ „ 4s. on house and croft in Sandy Lane.

„ „ 10s. on Levaria, a meadow in Henllan parish.

„ „ 10s. on Penypalmant in Denbigh.

Mr. WILLIAM MIDDLETON (no date) left £100 for catechising the poor. Of this, £68 were lost, and 32s. per ann. are paid by the Corporation for an Easter lecture.

*Lost*.—Rent-charge of 12s. on Garthmeilio, in Llangwm, by David Williams; ditto, 6s. 8d. per ann., by Hugh Lloyd Rosindale; ditto, £100, for bread, by Sir Thomas Salusbury; £30 for poor, Mrs. Lewis, 1810.

## SINECURE RECTORS.

## VICARS.

1537.—SALUSBURY, Ffoulk<sup>1</sup>

1537.—PAYNE or BAYNE, William

1538.—BIRCHINSHAW, Maurice,  
A.M.<sup>2</sup>

1554.—IRELAND, Robert<sup>8</sup>

1579.—DAVIES, John

1566.—THURLAND, Thomas

1613.—PARRY, Gabriel, B.D.<sup>9</sup>

1575.—MORGAN, William, D.D.<sup>3</sup>

1613.—ROBERTS, Hugh<sup>10</sup>

1596.—VAUGHAN, Griffith<sup>4</sup>

1614.—PIGOT, Richard<sup>11</sup>

1605.—PRICHARD, Robert<sup>5</sup>

1624.—BARKER, Thomas<sup>12</sup>

1615.—MORGAN, Evan, B.D.<sup>6</sup>

1633.—POWELL, Edward<sup>13</sup>

1621.—GWYN, Lewis, A.M.<sup>7</sup>

1635.—DAVIES, Henry

<sup>1</sup> Dean of St. Asaph, 1511, and Chancellor of the Diocese, 1513.

<sup>2</sup> Prebendary of Faenol, 1538.

<sup>3</sup> The learned translator of the Bible into Welsh. Bishop of Llandaff, 1595; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1601.

<sup>4</sup> Treasurer of Bangor Cathedral, 1607.

<sup>5</sup> Sinecure R. Llansannan, first comportion, 1614.

<sup>6</sup> Prebendary of Meifod, 1617.

<sup>7</sup> Vic. choral, 1613; R. Newtown, 1614; V. Llanrhaidr-ym-Mochnant, 1616; R. Manafon, 1660.

<sup>8</sup> Canon of St. Asaph, 1553; Prebendary of Meliden, 1558.

<sup>9</sup> Vic. choral, 1587; Master of Ruthin School, sinecure-rector of Llanrhaidr-yn-Mochnant, 1608; V. Henllan, 1609; V. Abergele, 1613; S. R. Llansannan, 1616; S. R. Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain, 1617; Precentor of Bangor and R. Llangynhafal, 1632.

<sup>10</sup> Vic. chor. 1587; V. Llangwm, 1609; R. Llysfaen, 1613; V. Gresford, 1614; R. Caerwys, 1618.

<sup>11</sup> R. Llandegla, 1597; V. Oswestry, 1602; V. Llangernyw, 1606; V. Llanrwst, 1609; R. Llanwrin, 1624.

<sup>12</sup> Vic. choral, 1617.

<sup>13</sup> R. Llansannan, first comportion, 1613.

## SINECURE RECTORS.

- 1625.—SALUSBURY, R., A.M.<sup>1</sup>  
 1633.—HODSLOW, Arthur, A.M.  
 1636.—LLOYD, Hugh, A.M.<sup>3</sup>

## VICARS.

- 1638.—LEWIS, Eubule  
 1640.—ROGERS, William, A.M.<sup>4</sup>  
 1673.—ROBERTS, John

## RECTORY AND VICARAGE UNITED.

- 1689.—ROBERTS, John, V. 1673  
 1697.—WILLIAMS, Thomas, M.A.<sup>5</sup>  
 1726.—JONES, Griffith<sup>6</sup>  
 1749.—PRICE, John, D.D.<sup>7</sup>  
 1772.—MYDDELTON, Robert, A.M.<sup>8</sup>
- 1797.—CLOUGH, Thomas, M.A.<sup>9</sup>  
 1814.—CLEAVER, William, M.A.<sup>10</sup>  
 1818.—HOWARD, Richard, D.D.<sup>11</sup>  
 1843.—ROBERTS, Robert Jones, M.A.<sup>12</sup>

1855.—LEWIS, Lewis, M.A., formerly Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford; B.A., 1841; M.A., 1844; Deacon, 1841; Pr., 1842; C. of Holywell; Disserth; vicar choral and vicar of St. Asaph, 1854-5.

## ST. GEORGE, OR LLANSANSIOR.

THE townships of this parish are Kegidog ucha, Kegidog isa, Dinorben, and Meifod; estimated extent, 2,286 a. 25 p.; rateable value, £2,693; and population, 308.

The earliest name of this place is the descriptive one of "Kegidog," *i. e.*, "abounding in hemlock," still retained in two of its townships;

<sup>1</sup> R. Llansantffraid G. C., and V. Llanrwst, 1614; V. Llanasa, 1615; Canon, 1622.

<sup>2</sup> Sinecure R. Llanbrynmair, 1636.

<sup>3</sup> Deprived by the Committee of Sequestrators, and the rectory together with the vicarage given to William Jones, a Nonconformist minister, who was one of the approvers (p. 107), and chaplain to Governor Twistleton, who was himself a member of the Committee of Sequestrators, and a purchaser of the confiscated episcopal lands. At the Restoration Jones was ejected to make way for the deprived rector and vicar.

<sup>4</sup> M.A., Fellow of St. John's Coll., Camb.; R. Hirnant, 1638. Deprived by the Committee of Sequestrators, but on the Restoration recovered his living.

<sup>5</sup> Translated *Nelson on the Fasts and Festivals* into Welsh in 1712.

<sup>6</sup> Master of Llanrwst School, 1702; R. Bodvari, 1715. Author of several pamphlets on points of controversy between the Church of England and the Romanists and Presbyterians.

<sup>7</sup> Prebendary of Ely, 1741; Canon of St. Asaph, 1760.

<sup>8</sup> R. St. George, 1757; V. Llandrillo yn Rhos, 1763. He was of Gwaun-ynog.

<sup>9</sup> V. Llangernyw, 1783; Canon, 1794; R. Hirnant, 1797; V. Nantglyn, 1806.

<sup>10</sup> Prebendary of Faenol and sinecure R. of Corwen and Llanfor, 1809.

<sup>11</sup> V. Llanfor, 1812; V. Bettws-yn Rhos, 1816; V. Nantglyn, 1823; R. Llanddogfan with Beaumaris, 1824; V. Llanrhaiadr yn-Glymmeirch, 1843.

<sup>12</sup> R. Ysceiviog, 1855.



whilst its present name, derived from St. Sior, the founder of the church (confounded with St. George, the patron saint of England), appears to have come into common use about the time when the well and the shrine of the saint acquired their great reputation, in the pre-Reformation period. In the *Valor Eccles.* of 1535 we find that the offerings at the latter ("oblaciones S'e'o Georgio") amounted to 26s. 8d.; and about the same time, as St. George was considered to be the tutelar saint of horses, his well was much resorted to for its supposed efficacy in curing their diseases.<sup>1</sup>

Originally the greater part of the parish appears to have formed a portion of that of St. Asaph, for not only down to 1572 were the inhabitants of the township of Meifod bound to repair a portion of the churchyard-wall of the parish church at St. Asaph, and have always paid their great tithes to the prebendary of Meifod in the Cathedral Church; but they also of Kimmell and Dinorben paid all tithes to the prebendary of Faenol, who in his turn paid 6s. 8d. to the parson of St. George for ministering and saying service to them.<sup>2</sup> In the *Taxatio* of 1291 no distinct mention is made of this arrangement. It is simply "Ecclesia de Kegydauc taxatur £4 : 2 : 6; decima (Papæ), 8s. 3d." But in the *Valor* of 1535 we have respectively, "Rectoria de Kegidok valet clare £10 : 2 : 11; decima (Regi), £1 : 0 : 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ "; "Porciones de Vaynell, Kimmell et Dinorben, £20 : 6 : 8," to the prebendary of Faenol; and "Porcio de Myvod, 20s." to David Owen, canon and prebendary. The Commutation Returns assign for the township of St. George (corresponding to Kegidoc ucha, Kegidoc isa, and Dinorben) £273 to the rector and £36 to the prebendary of Faenol; and for that of Meifod, £64 : 15 : 6 to the prebendary of Meifod, and £6 (*i.e.*, the small tithes) to the rector. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners added £11 per ann. to the living in 1864, in virtue of the lapsed prebend of Meifod. The rector has also a good house, repaired in 1829 and 1861, and three quarters of an acre of glebe. The patronage,

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<sup>1</sup> "There was a popular tradition that *the* St. George had his terrible conflict with the dragon here, and that the print of his horse's shoes long remained on some of the coping-stones of the churchyard wall." Now taking this imprint, as in a similar case at St. Asaph, as a testimony to the tradition, and the tradition itself as a legendary account of a very early historic fact, there is much to give colour to the popular notion. Sior, the founder of the church, supposing him to have been a chieftain of old Dinorben, may well have rescued, with the aid of his swift horses, some Christian maiden from the dragon's hold (Dinbych); or, if simply a missionary, may have preserved for the church the site on which it was built, when the lords of Denbigh threatened or attempted to seize it. At all events it was at one time not only in the lordship of Denbigh, but also in the lord's advowson. Other neighbouring names, such as *Parc-y-meirch*, *Coed-y-meibion*, *Dol-ganed*, *Nantddu*, etc., would supply abundant materials for filling out the legend.

<sup>2</sup> See under St. Asaph, p. 271.



which anciently belonged to the lords of Denbigh,<sup>1</sup> and passed, or rather reverted, from them to the crown as Prince of Wales, was sold in 1867, under the Small Livings' Act, to H. R. Hughes, Esq., of Kinmel.

The church, which bears its founder's name, Llan San Sior, is a double edifice consisting of two equal aisles divided by a series of arches; under the easternmost of which is the Communion Table, which stands against the wall, between the two windows. It contains no features of any interest, beyond a few tombstones to the memory of the Carters and others of Kinmel, 1685-6, and to the family of the late Lord Dinorben, who built for himself a mausoleum on the north side. The Registers only date from 1694; but in the body of them is inserted an attested copy of entries extracted from a book at Kinmel, dated 1681. The chalice, dated 1677, was given by Thomas Carter, and the paten by Mary Carter.

Several houses in the village have recently been taken down, and rebuilt on the new road leading from Abergele to Bodelwyddan.

The National School, which is supported by Mr. Hughes of Kinmel, is held in what was once the Independent Chapel, to which it has been transferred from the older room near the churchyard.

## RECTORS.

1537.—PIGOT, Richard	1668.—WILLIAMS, William <sup>6</sup>
Hugh ap Kenrick	1684.—WILLIAMS, Thomas <sup>7</sup>
1554.—John ab Ellis <sup>2</sup>	1690.—PARRY, John
1590.—WYNNE, John	1702.—FFOULKES, Humphrey <sup>8</sup>
1604.—HOLLAND, Foulk	1714.—DAVIES, William <sup>9</sup>
1609.—EDWARDS, John <sup>3</sup>	1750.—PRICE, Thomas
1617.—HOLLAND, John, jun. <sup>4</sup>	1757.—MYDDELTON, Robt., A.M. <sup>10</sup>
1661.—SALISBURY, William <sup>5</sup>	1797.—WILLIAMS, William, M.A. <sup>11</sup>
1662.—MORRIS, David	1829.—JONES, John, M.A. <sup>12</sup>

1854.—WILLIAMS, Thomas, B.D., Lampeter; Deac. 1842, Pr. 1843, formerly curate of St. Asaph, editor of *Casgliad o Psalmai a Hymnau at Wasanaeth yr Eglwys Gymraeg*. First edition, 1860; third, 1868.

<sup>1</sup> From the inquisition of the estate of Henry de Lacy, Earl of Denbigh, we learn, "Idem Comes habuit ibidem advocacionem cujusdam ecclesie que vocatur *Kikedok* que valet per ann. x mercs."

<sup>2</sup> "Dominus Johannes ab Elis, Presbiter, Rector de *Ganiot George* alias *Kegidock*, residens." (Bp. Davies' Return.) "He was articled against for marriage." (Br. Willis.)

<sup>3</sup> V. Llansannan, 1617, probably by exchange with J. Holland, jun.

<sup>4</sup> R. Llansantffraid G. C., 1613; V. Llansannan, 1614; R. Llanddulas, 1629.

<sup>5</sup> V. Llangernyw, 1661.

<sup>6</sup> Canon IV, 1679.

<sup>7</sup> V. Llanrwst, 1690; R. Denbigh and V. Llansannan, 1697.

<sup>8</sup> Preb. Llanfair, 1705. <sup>9</sup> V. chor. 1741; reinstituted to St. George, 1742.

<sup>10</sup> Of Gwaunynog. V. Llandrillo-yn Rhos, 1763; R. Denbigh, 1772.

<sup>11</sup> Of Bodelwyddan. Took the additional name of Edwards. <sup>12</sup> V. chor. 1828.

HENLLAN.<sup>1</sup>

THIS large parish was, until the erection of the daughter churches of Bylchan and Trefnant, of great extent ecclesiastically as well as civilly, stretching some sixteen miles in its greatest length, from the banks of the Clwyd to those of the Alwen (within five miles of Pentrevoelas), by about seven miles in its greatest width, from the river Elwy to the source of the Lliwen; containing nine townships, with a total area of 14,264 acres; of which 13,870<sup>2</sup> are cultivated land, of the rateable value of £16,950, with a total population of 2,607;<sup>3</sup> ecclesiastical, 1,058.

In the *Taxatio* of 1291 "*Ecclesia de Helan<sup>4</sup> est capella Cathedralis Ecclesie annexa prebende decani, et taxatur £13:6:8; decima £1:6:8; vicaria, £2:13:4 non decimat.*" In the *Valor* of 1535, "*Rectoria de Henllan appropriatur decanatu Ecclesie Cathedralis de Sancto Asaph, et valet £33. Vicaria valet £20, inde pro decima parte domino Regi debit 20s.*" £5 were also paid to the Bishop as "sexts," as was the rule with all livings appropriated to the cathedral chapter. Soon after this not only the rectory but the vicarage also became somehow or other appropriated to the deanery; for we read in a memorandum written by Piers Roberts, the registrar, that in 1609, "Upon Sunday the xxiii of June, Gabriel Parry, A.M., schoolmaster at Ruthyn, as is reported, tooke possession of the vicarage of Henllan, com. Denbighe, in the church of Henllan, where for the space of xxxiii years now laste paste there was noe vicar, but the Deane of St. Asaphe for the tyme being helde the same for the sayde space as united to the deanerye. Upon which entrance suite grew between the Deane Banks and Mr. Parry." Whether the suit was carried out to the end, or compromised, does not appear; but "the Dean's successor (Maurice) took quiet possession." And this seems to have continued the rule, as far as the tithes were concerned, until the death of Dean Luxmoore; for although the incumbents in charge for some time previous to 1826 appear to have been licensed as vicars, yet from 1826 till 1855 they were licensed as stipendiary curates to the Dean. In the latter year an Order in Council (21 July, 1855) granted to the vicar a tithe rent-charge of £350:3:4, in lieu of the stipend of £120 heretofore paid out of the appropriate rectory. At the same time the districts

<sup>1</sup> "The old church," so called from the antiquity of its foundation, "*Sadwrn*," its founder, being mentioned as a contemporary in the *Legend of St. Winifred*, and described in *Achau y Saint* as a member of St. Asaph's Collegium, and a confessor therein,—a circumstance which may account for the connexion of the parish with the Cathedral.

<sup>2</sup> Some 8,000 of these acres, including 2,000 on Denbigh Green, were enclosed from waste lands in 1802.

<sup>3</sup> Bishop Tanner records "a tradition that Aberwheeler also was once part of Henllan parish." (MS. Z.)

<sup>4</sup> (R. O.) Henlan.

of Trefnant and Bylchau were constituted and endowed, and the same year another portion of the parish transferred to Denbigh. The Commutation Returns contain another appropriation, viz. to the Bishop as lord of the manor of Uwch Caeran, on account of the lands enclosed on Denbigh Green. For the townships of Banister-isa, £326 to the Bishop and lessee; Banister ucha, £151:18:6, to the Dean and lessee; for Lleweni-isa, Lleweni-ucha, Llan, Rhanhir, Rhanfawr, Parc and Uwchcaeran, £1,172:12:6 to the Dean and lessee. The lease of Banister-isa, held by Miss Sparrow, will expire in 1873; and the interest in that of Banister-ucha, granted in 1855 to Miss F. Luxmoore, has been purchased by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, to whom the rest also of the tithes have fallen; and who, since they came into possession of them, have assigned to the vicar £350:3:4; to the rector of Trefnant, £378:7:2; to the rector of Bylchau, £378:9:1; and to the rector of Denbigh, £65, in consideration of the portion of the parish (the north side of Henllan Street) transferred to his cure; besides erecting glebe houses at Trefnant and Bylchau. The rector<sup>1</sup> of Henllan has also an excellent house, enlarged and improved in 1869, and four acres of glebe. The patronage is in the Bishop of the diocese.

Before the Reformation there were in the parish, besides the mother church, several chapelries or oratories; of which, with one exception, little is now known beyond the site. That exception is the chapel of the House of the Carmelite Friars, still called "the Abbey," at the east end of the town of Denbigh, and in that portion of the parish which has recently been transferred to it. An arcade of ogee arches, with peculiar openings in the jambs, survives in the north wall; and a similar arcade, probably a clerestory, on the south side. The same features belong to the triple sedilia. The piscina and stoup have been blocked up, but their places are visible. The east window is a Perpendicular of beautiful design. The flooring is said to be composed of reversed tombstones, and the ground about was formerly the cemetery. An effigy (half-length), which once had a canopy, may be seen in the Abbey garden. This is probably the one noticed by Dr. Johnson as "the Chapel of Lleweny, very complete, and the monumental stones lying on the ground";<sup>2</sup> and by Pennant as "the burial-place of the family of the founder (John Salisbury of Lleweni, who died 1289) till the Reformation."<sup>3</sup>

On the Green also, in a field still called "Cae 'r Capel," on a farm of the significant name of "The College," there was formerly a chapel,

<sup>1</sup> The vicarage was constituted a rectory in 1865, at the same time with Trefnant and Bylchau, under the District Churches' Tithe Act.

<sup>2</sup> *Notes on a Visit to Wales in 1774*. Probably, I say, as there may have been a chapel near the House of Lleweni (which was formerly a place of the first importance), since then lost sight of.

<sup>3</sup> *Tours in Wales*, ii, 165.



afterwards converted into a cottage, as was the case also at Aber-wheeler; and there is a tradition that the vicar of Henllan used to come and officiate here at certain seasons of the Church, such as Christmas and Easter. Another *capella* appears to have existed in "Waun Tywysog," at a spot still marked by an ancient yew-tree, with a once famous well near it, and fields still called "Cae'r person" and "Cae'r clochydd." The neighbouring "Groes" may have been the site of a still earlier mission-cross.

"Hen Fynwent," *i. e.*, the old cemetery, near Bylchau, is supposed to have been the burial-place of those slain in battle in some of the many engagements that marked the struggle between the Welsh and English; and in the next field to it, lying between Hen Fynwent and the new church, are some tumuli that indicate the burial-ground of still earlier people.

The parish church, founded originally by St. Sadwrn (after whom the spot now forming the cross roads close by is also called "Bwlch Sadwrn") was partially rebuilt in 1807-8,<sup>1</sup> and is in the form of a parallelogram. It is pewed throughout; the pulpit and desk are on the north wall, and at the west end is a gallery containing a small organ. The oldest details are the early Pointed north door with its shoulder-arch, now leading into the vestry; an ogee piscina in the south wall; and the Perpendicular east window, of five lights, which contains a few fragments of painted glass, chiefly of a diaper pattern. The octagonal font, of corresponding date, now forms the basin of a small well in the Llysmeirchion grounds! Some *Notes in Henllan Church* (Aug. 7, 1891)<sup>2</sup> mention an inscription to "Willm. Rosindall armiger et d'na Isabella Peeke, consors sua," who died in 1441, "qu' a'bus p'picietur Deus"; and further state that "in the window were the arms of the Prince of Wales, Mortimer and March, and Vernon de Hatton; and an inscription on stone to Roger Myddelton, Armiger, who died 24th Feb. 1587." An account of "the seats in the chauncell," and of others "adjoyning upon the partition dividing the body of the church from the chauncell," is given in MS. Book G; from which it would appear that the desks in the former were then beginning to be claimed, and doors put upon other seats, converting them into pews. In 1791<sup>3</sup> there is a further notice that "the Communion Table is a decent blue stone upon a carved oak frame." The frame remains, and is of similar character, and probably the same handiwork as those of Bodvari and St. Hilary's, Denbigh; but the "blue stone" has been superseded by an oaken top. The oldest monuments, both in and out of the church, are to the family of Peake of Perthewig, whose marriage connexions are depicted on a small heraldic window<sup>4</sup> recently inserted in the north-west wall. On the south side are two memorial windows, each of two lights, by Miller of

<sup>1</sup> The cost was £964, raised by rate.

<sup>2</sup> *Ancient and Modern Denbigh*, p. 195.

<sup>3</sup> Rural Dean's Report.

<sup>4</sup> Designed by Charles Winston, and executed by Ward and Nixon.



London. The one in memory of Dorothy Roberts of Plas yn Green, ob. 1863, represents the Crucifixion and the Resurrection. The other, in memory of John Heaton (ob. 1855) has representations of our Lord and Nathanael. The font is also a memorial, to Anne Eliza Walpole (daughter of J. H.) ob. 1854. The tower has two peculiarities,—first, that it is quite separate from the church, being built on a spur of rock at the north-east corner of the churchyard; a spot chosen, no doubt, in order that the bells might be heard further and more clearly through so extensive a parish than they could possibly be from the level of the church itself; and secondly, that each of its angles makes for one of the cardinal points. It was not touched when the church was rebuilt in 1806-7, but was repaired in 1844.

The National School was built in 1826, on a plot of ground (2 r. 5 p.) allotted to the Bishop in 1814 as lord of the manor of Uwchertfyn. The school had previously been held in a large room in the Poors' or Almshouses built in 1814.

The charities are considerable, and embrace the following rent-charges :

1673.—From *Cae Cockshutt*, bought with £112; being £92, the principal and interest of bequests by Sir Thomas and Lady MYDDELTON, in 1668, to this parish and Denbigh equally; and £20 from Robert ap Rees LEWIS for this parish.

1721.—*Berthen Gron*, in the parish of Llanfwrog (20 a.), purchased for £190.<sup>1</sup> For timber on ditto, sold in 1776, £50, invested in Turnpike Trust; ditto, sold in 1802, £160. This was disposed of in vestry in aid of the poor-rates and payment of parochial debts.

1727.—*Glythe*, charged by Evan HUGHES, in 1727, with £1 10s.; ditto, on account of quarry assigned to it by Inclosure Act, 1802, 5s.

1730.—*Brook House*, in Astrad Cannon, by Robert WILLIAMS, £2.

*Other benefactions* mentioned in the church are, Edward Griffith, Garn, £3 per ann.;\* and Mrs. Jane Ffoulkes, £1 10s. per ann.; and the interest of the following sums: Thomas ap Richard of Nant, £20;\* Lowry, his wife, £3; Elizabeth Lloyd of Tanygirt, £5; Mrs. Margaret Ffoulkes, £10;\* Mrs. Grace Chambres of Plas Chambres, £5;\* John Roberts, mason, of Denbigh, £5; John Roberts, son of above, £5; Lady Salusbury of Lleweni, £10;\* Mrs. Frances Jones of Cloc-aenog, daughter of Eriviatt, £50;\* Mrs. Jones of Perthewig, £5; Catherine Ffoulkes of Eriviatt, £50.\*

<sup>1</sup> This purchase-money arose from £100 left by Mrs. Slater in 1712, £20 by William Vaughan of Groes, the other £70 being probably some of the other charities.

\* "*Secured*," but it is not stated whether on lands or bond; probably the latter, for in 1813, £160 from Mr. Ffoulkes' bond and interest, and £182, the principal, with interest, of £100 left by Lady Shelburne, who died at Lleweni about 1792, were spent by the parish in erecting some comfortable cottages for such as need them, the house-rents for the paupers of the parish being at that time £130 per ann. The cottages are ten in number, with twenty-three rooms, and occupied by twenty-two poor persons rent free.

The greater portion of the above benefactions seems thus to have been invested on the Berthen Gron Farm and on the Almshouse; but the following ones appear to have been lost: 1689, Abel Mitchell, £25 (he left £100 between the parishes of Henllan, Llansannan, Llannefydd, and Llanfair Talhaiarn); land in Twysog and Taldrach, bought in 1721 with £20 of poor's money, and sold again in 1757, but no account given in the parish books; 1708, Thomas Griffith of Plas Newydd (now Plas Heaton), £50, invested on Penybryn; a rent-charge of £6 per ann. on the same estate, given by Anne Griffith of Plas Newydd in 1727; a rent-charge of £1 16s. on Arddwy-faen, in Llangwm, by David Williams of Lodge, to be equally divided between Henllan, Llangwm, and Denbigh; a bequest of £10 by Anne Chambres of Plas Chambres in 1643.

## VICARS.

1560.—MARTEVALLSWATER, Humphrey <sup>1</sup>	1772.—CHAMBRES-JONES, E., M.A. <sup>4</sup>
1609.—PARRY, Gabriel, A.M. <sup>2</sup>	1783.—WILLIAMS, Peter
1684.—JONES, .....	1799.—MAURICE, Robert <sup>5</sup>
1685.—EVANS, .....	1801.—ROBERTS, Edward, M.A. <sup>6</sup>
1712.—DAVIES, .....	1819.—CHAMBRES, Ph. Chambres
1721.—WILLIAMS, John <sup>3</sup>	1826.—JONES, John, M.A. <sup>7</sup>
1742.—JONES, John	1829.—BONNOR, Richard Maurice, M.A. <sup>8</sup>
1759.—JONES, Robert	1833.—BRISCOE, Richard, M.A. <sup>9</sup>
1766.—LLOYD, Owen	1839.—BRISCOE, Thomas, M.A. <sup>10</sup>

1840.—SMART, Edward, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford, B.A., 1839; Deacon, 1839; Pr. 1840.

<sup>1</sup> "Dominus Humphredus Martevalls-vater, Presbiter, vicarius de Henllan, et residens." (B. W., ii, 140.)

<sup>2</sup> Vicar of Abergele, 1613.

<sup>3</sup> Rector of Gwaunyngor, 1711; R. Llangadfan, 1717.

<sup>4</sup> V. Llannefydd, 1772; vic. chor., 1777; V. Llansannan, 1782; Canon, 1784.

<sup>5</sup> V. Rhuddlan, 1800; R. Llanbedr D. C., 1807. <sup>6</sup> R. Halkin, 1819.

<sup>7</sup> Vic. chor. of St. Asaph, 1828; R. St. George, 1829.

<sup>8</sup> Dean of St. Asaph and Chancellor of the Diocese, 1859.

<sup>9</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford; D.D. 1845; V. Whitford, 1839-65; R. Nutfield, Surrey, 1865.

<sup>10</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford; P. C. Holyhead, 1858; translator of Ellendorf's *1st Petrus in Rom und Bischof der Romischen Kirche gewesen*, 1851; and from the Hebrew into Welsh, of the Prophet Isaiah, the Book of Job, and of the Books of the Psalms and Proverbs.

## BYLCHAU.

THIS district is defined by the Order in Council, July 21, 1855, to be all those portions of the parishes of Henllan and Llansannan situate on the southern and eastern sides of an imaginary line commencing on the eastern boundary of Henllan, at a point in the middle of the high road leading from Felin Segrwyd, or Egryn Mill, to Groes Fawr; and thence extending towards the north-west, along the middle of the road to Llansannan, as far as the boundary of the two parishes: thence, again, along the middle of the same road as far as Pont Deunant, which crosses Afon Deunant; from which point this stream becomes the boundary as far as the junction of the stream called Afon-ucha, which in its turn becomes the boundary until it again meets the abovementioned boundary between the two parishes." This area is of very considerable extent, being about eight miles long by about four in its greatest width, covering an area of upwards of 8,000 acres in the several townships of Uwch Caeran and Taldrach in Henllan, and Deunant and Grugor in Llansannan. The Order in Council above mentioned assigned to it a tithe-rent charge of £250 : 18 : 3, arising from tithes previously attached to the sinecure rectory of Henllan, appropriated to the deanery of St. Asaph, and the amount has subsequently been increased to £378 : 9 : 1. The rector has also a house, built in 1854 at a cost of £1,500, not including out-buildings, etc., and half an acre of glebe. The patronage is alternate in the Bishop of the diocese and the Crown. Population, 478.

The church, dedicated to St. Thomas, built from the plans of Mr. G. G. Scott, and consecrated October 27, 1857, is in the Early English style, and consists of chancel and nave with north porch and western bell-gable. The east window is a triplet with detached shafts of Anglesey marble, and is filled with stained glass to the memory of John Powell Ffoulkes of Eriviatt, ob. 1826, and Caroline Mary, his wife, ob. 1854; the central subject being the Crucifixion (St. John, xix, 26, 27), with the Annunciation beneath, and St. Mary and St. John on either side. The glass by Wailes, Newcastle. The Communion service was presented by the Misses Luxmoore in memory of their brother, the Dean; and the altar-cloth was the gift of Mrs. Townshend Mainwaring.

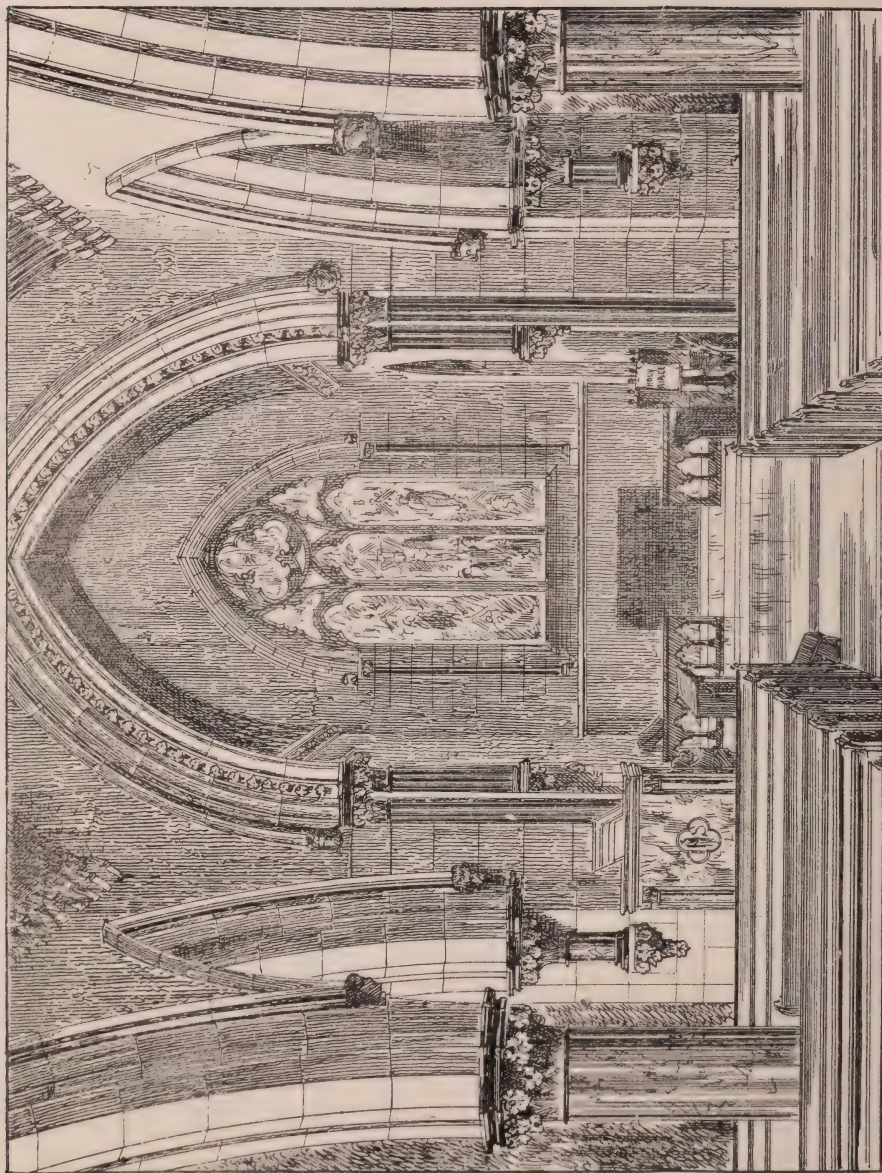
*Rector.*—1854. PARRY, Henry, B.A., New Inn Hall, Oxford; Deacon, 1842; Pr. 1843; curate of Llanasa, 1842-54.

## TREFNANT.

THE Order in Council constituting this district, dated July 21, 1855, defined it to be "all that portion of the parish of Henllan situate on the eastern side of an imaginary line extending along the middle of the old turnpike road leading from St. Asaph over Pontyralltgoch to







INTERIOR OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH. TREFNANT.

Denbigh." The district thus assigned embraces portions of the townships of Lleweni and the two Banistres, with a population of 634. A tithe rent-charge amounting to £250:13:5 was at the same time granted, and it has been increased by a subsequent Order to £378:7:2. A most excellent house has also been added at a cost of about £1,800, mainly borne by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners; and eight acres of glebe, inclusive of the sites of the church, house, and school, given by Townshend Mainwaring, Esq. The cure was constituted a rectory in 1866, at the same time with those of Henllan and Bylchau, and is in the alternate patronage of the Crown and the Bishop of the diocese.

The beautiful church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, was erected by Mrs. Townshend Mainwaring of Galltfaenan, and Mrs. Mainwaring of Oteley Park, as a memorial to their parents, the late Colonel and Mrs. Salisbury of Galltfaenan. The foundation-stone was laid July 25th, 1853, and it was consecrated August 16, 1855. In plan it consists of chancel, divided by steps into sacrarium and choir; and nave with side-aisles of four bays, the northern one being extended so as to form a chancel-aisle; and a vestry with an organ-loft above. The principal entrance is through a south porch, and there is also a priest's door into the chancel. The bell-gable stands over the chancel-arch, at the intersection of the chancel and nave. The chancel, which is seated stall-wise, is floored with encaustic tiles, and has its ceiling in ribbed panels; a hollow band, set off with carved flowers, forming the cornice. A sedile has been formed by the deepening of the window-splay; and a reredos of composite, surmounted by a band of oak carving with the text, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," has recently been added.<sup>1</sup> The east window is filled with stained glass by Wailes, and bears the inscription, "To the honour and glory of God, and in memory of John Lloyd Salisbury, ob. 1852, and Anna Maria, his wife, ob. 1846." The subjects are, in the central light, Abraham's sacrifice and the Crucifixion; and on each side, the Birth and Resurrection, and the Baptism and Ascension. The pillars of the nave are formed of massive blocks of grey Anglesey marble, having capitals of the same material admirably carved to represent native wild flowers, grouped in threes (expressive of the Holy Trinity),<sup>2</sup> with an abacus of Henllan black marble; the same arrangement being also followed in the smaller pillars at the angles of the pulpit and the handsome font, and everywhere with excellent effect. At the spring of the arches the string terminates in a carved head, and the chancel arch has also a hollow moulding with a running band of the vine. All the windows of the nave are of two lights, but each has different tracery. A small rose-window lights the organ-loft; and the vestry has a peculiar window, square-headed, with tracery. The small single light at the east end of the south aisle contains memorial glass, by Wailes, to

<sup>1</sup> In commemoration of the majority of C. S. Mainwaring, 1866.

<sup>2</sup> All the carved flowers and heads were the skilful work of a local artist, Mr. Blinstone.



"Julia Mary Ffoulkes of Eriviatt, æt. 4," which represents our Lord blessing little children. The lectern is very handsome, the polished brass work being well set off by the painting of the rest; and the same may be said of the standards for lighting the church.<sup>1</sup> Externally the outline is pleasingly varied by the dormer-gables of the aisle-windows, the bell-turret, and the small tower on the north side ascending to the organ-loft. Each dripstone ends in a well-carved head, and the variety of the gable-crosses adds greatly to the effect. The thorough satisfactoriness of the church throughout, the beauty of the details, and the excellence of the work, constitute it an excellent model for a small parish church.<sup>2</sup> The architect was Mr. G. G. Scott.

The National School was built in 1860, at a cost of £700, chiefly contributed by Mr. Townshend Mainwaring.

*Rector*.—1855. LEWIS, David, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Deacon, 1850; Priest, 1851; curate of Holyhead, 1850-55.

#### LLANDDULAS.

So called from the "dark grey" colour of the local mountain limestone, which also gave its name to the stream that passes through the village; but also called, in former times, "Llangynbryd," from Cynbryd, the founder of the church, a saint of the fifth century, who is said to have fallen in battle with the Saxons at Bwlch Cynbryd. The parish is very small, containing only 606 a. 3 r. 14 p., in the two townships of Tre'r Llan and Tre'r Cefn Castell; of the rateable value of £1,997; and with a population of 630, chiefly occupied in the limestone quarries. The Bishop of Bangor is lord of the manor by virtue of a grant made by Edward I in 1284, on the occasion of the baptism of the first Prince of Wales.<sup>3</sup>

In the *Taxatio* of 1261 "*Ecclesia de Llandwlas taxatur £4, non decimat*"; and in the *Valor* of 1535, "*valet clare £6:1:4*"; one of the deductions mentioned being "*Rectori de Abergelle pro annua portione 7s. 8d.*", from which we may fairly deduce that this parish was

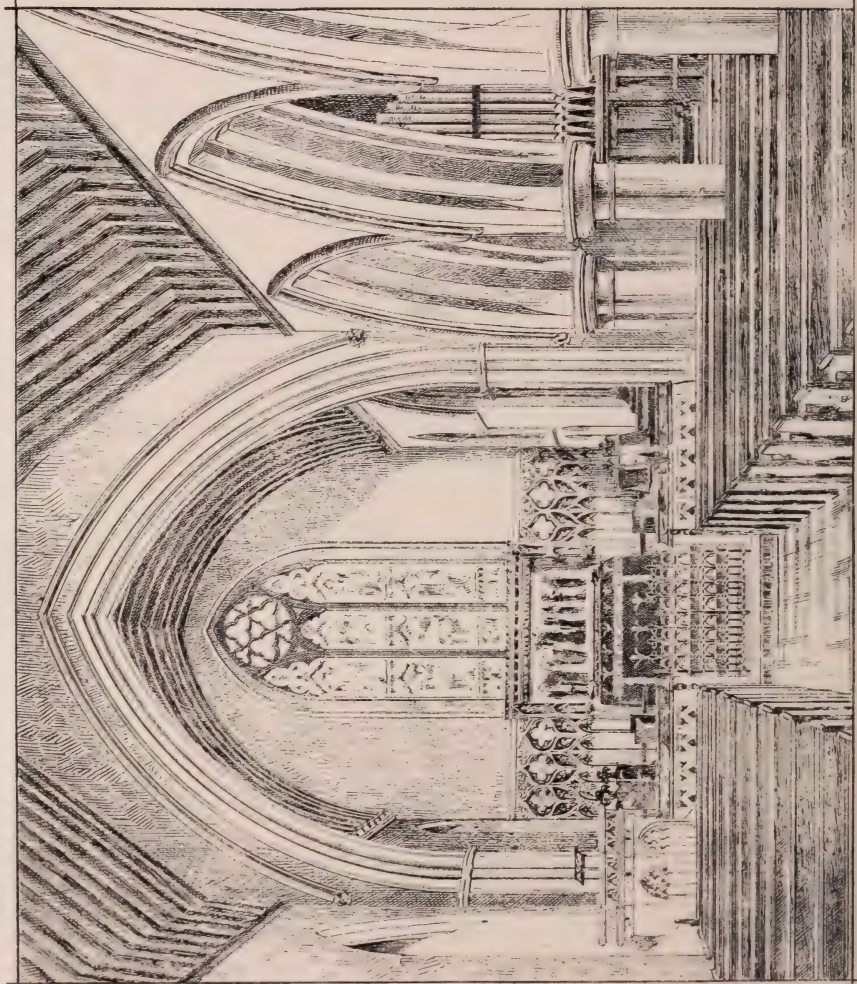
<sup>1</sup> The metal work throughout is by Skidmore.

<sup>2</sup> The total cost was under £4,000.

<sup>3</sup> "On St. Mark's Day, 1284, was born Edward, surnamed of Carnarvon, the fourth and eldest surviving son of his royal parents,—a child of great promise, which it was his and England's great misfortune that he lived to falsify. Gruffydd Llwyd, a Welsh gentleman, the first to bring the intelligence to the King, was knighted for his good news. The Bishop of Bangor, who christened the young Prince, had a splendid fee,—no less than a grant of the ferries of Borthwen and Ceunant; the manors of Bangor, Castellmai, and Garthgogo; the rocks of Abergelieu, to get up limestone; with the manors of Cantred and Treffos, in Mona; to him and his successors for ever." (Llwyd's *Mona*.)







*Photo. J. J. A. Whittman & Sons, London.*

LLANDULAS CHURCH

originally subject to Abergele as its mother church. The commutation made in 1843 assigned, in lieu of tithes in kind, the rent-charge of £148 to the rector, and £2 to the parish clerk. The rector has also a house, which was built in 1815, and enlarged in 1849 and 1866, together with 5 a. 3r. 14 p. of glebe. The patronage belongs to the Bishop of the diocese.

The present church, of which an illustration is given, is the third within a hundred and fifty years. It was built at the sole expense<sup>1</sup> of R. Bamford-Hesketh, Esq., of Gwrych Castle, from the plans of Mr. G. E. Street. The foundation-stone was laid by Mrs. Bamford-Hesketh, in the name of the Holy Trinity, on July 2nd, 1868; and it was consecrated by Bishop Short on Monday the 24th May, 1869. It consists of chancel and nave with south aisle to both, vestry at the north-east angle, porch on the south side, and small round tower at the west end. The chancel, which is divided from the nave by a low stone screen and elaborate iron gates, has a beautiful reredos in Caen stone,<sup>2</sup> representing the Crucifixion, with traceried screen-work at the sides. The embroidered and jewelled altar-cloth is the work of Miss Foster, and gift of Mrs. Hesketh. An organ, by Hill, occupies the chancel-aisle. In the nave the pulpit and font are of Caen stone richly carved, the lectern of oak, and the aisles, like the chancel, floored with encaustic tiles. The east window is filled with stained glass in memory of the late Ll. B. Hesketh, and, together with the three other memorial windows in the chancel, represents various events in the life of our Lord. Externally, the walls are made of rubble and closely jointed limestone, with punched face; the quoins being white dressed limestone; and the plinth, window-dressings, strings, and tower, of Cefn stone,—a combination which gives a very effective appearance. The green slates of the roof are from Whitland Abbey, near Narberth, and the whole is crested with a ridge of red tiles.<sup>3</sup>

The old church, in lieu of which this was built, and which was taken down on its completion, bore the name of the first founder, St. Cynbryd, and consisted of nave and north aisle. The former, as testified by an external inscription over the east window,<sup>4</sup> was rebuilt in 1732. Another inscription on a tablet in the south porch stated the cost to have been £231 : 3 : 6, of which sum £216 : 16 : 2 was collected by brief, the balance being supplied by the pew-holders paying

<sup>1</sup> The cost was about £6,000.

<sup>2</sup> By Earp of London.

<sup>3</sup> When the foundations were being dug for this church, outside the old churchyard, and some twenty yards to the north of the church it superseded, several skeletons were found, but without any coffins or indication of decayed timber, so that they may have been the remains of some of those who fell in the many battles that occurred at the neighbouring pass before the annexation of the Principality to the English crown.

<sup>4</sup> "Hæc ædes penitus collapsa et diruta, communibus impensis re-edificata fuerat anno D'ni mdcclxxii."

forty shillings each; and "no seat or pew shall be possessed or enjoyed by any, unless for as above."<sup>1</sup> In 1749 a picture of the Last Supper stood over the Communion Table. In 1833 a gallery, at the west end, was erected by R. W. Wynne, Esq., of Garthewin, for the accommodation of the parishioners; and in 1841 the north transept was added by public contributions.

There are two National Schools. The boys' built by subscription in 1862, at a cost of £241:17:9 (on a site given by Mr. R. W. Wynne of Bronywendon<sup>2</sup>), and enlarged and improved in 1866 by Mr. Bamford Hesketh. It is endowed with £15 per ann., charged by Colonel Wynne of Garthewin, in 1836, on Pentre du in Llanfair; and a further sum of £200, given by Miss Crossley of Dyffryn Dulas, and now invested in the Three per Cents. in the name of the Dean and Chapter of St. Asaph.

The girls' school, with mistress' house, etc., was built in 1846 by the above Miss Crossley, who also endowed it with £1,200, now in the Three per Cents., it being strictly stipulated that it shall always be conducted on the principles of the Church of England. If there be not forty children from this parish, the remainder to be made up equally out of Bettws and Llysfaen.

Four cottages on the south side of the churchyard, which formerly bore the inscription, "These Almshouses were erected by the benefaction of Thomas, Hugh, and William Lloyd, three brothers, of Tanrallt in the parish of Llandulas, for the use of the poor of the parish for ever, 1767, were, by an Order of the Charity Commissioners, sold to Mr. Hesketh, and the purchase-money invested in the Funds for the benefit of the poor of the parish.

Other charities are: £20, the bequest of one William Davies (according to Charity Report); or else, having been originally a charge on Tanyrallt estate, a bequest of the three brothers Lloyd, is now invested in the St. Asaph Savings' Bank.

The interest of £5, bequeathed by one of the rectors (Thomas) for catechising the children, used to be laid out in religious books for the use of the Sunday School; but it appears for some years to have been lost, and is supposed to have been applied to the relief of the poor-rates.

#### RECTORS.

1537.—GRIFFITH, John	1587.—GRIFFITH, Edward
— HUGH AP KENN or WYNNE	1601.—PRICHARD, Griffith, A.M.
1540.—LEWIS, Richard <sup>3</sup>	1610.—JONES, Richard <sup>4</sup>
1560.—JOHN AP REES	1611.—JONES, John

<sup>1</sup> Vestry accounts, 21 July, 1733.

<sup>2</sup> This was in lieu of a previous site on which Colonel Wynne of Garthewin had in 1833 erected a school, the lease of which now expiring Mr. R. W. Wynne refused to renew.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanelian, 1555.

<sup>4</sup> Deprived. V. Llansannan, 1613; R. Aberhafesp, 1614.



1616.—WILLIAMS, J.	1780.—PUGH, Rice <sup>6</sup>
——— EVANS, Matthew	1788.—EVANS, Edward <sup>7</sup>
1620.—HUGHES, James	1811.—PARRY, Thomas <sup>8</sup>
1629.—HOLLAND, J. <sup>1</sup>	1813.—WILLIAMS, John
1661.—EVANS, Thomas	1814.—HUGHES, Edward <sup>9</sup>
1668.—PUGH, Henry	1818.—PHILIPS, Robert <sup>10</sup>
1672.—LLOYD, David, M.A. <sup>2</sup>	1819.—DAVIES, Robert
1674.—WILLIAMS, William <sup>3</sup>	1824.—HUGHES, John <sup>11</sup>
1684.—OWENS, Griffith	1828.—ROBERTS, Lewis
1700.—HUMPHREYS, John	1840.—ROBERTS, James Ffoulkes, M.A.
1710.—ROBERTS, J., LL.B.	1849.—HUMPHREYS, Owen Jones, M.A. <sup>12</sup>
1713.—THOMAS, Robert	1858.—DAVIES, Thomas Zephaniah, M.A. <sup>13</sup>
1722.—LLOYD, J. <sup>4</sup>	
1732.—SAMUEL, Edward <sup>5</sup>	
——— THOMAS, Lewis	

1865.—DAVIES, John, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Deacon, 1850; Priest, 1851. Formerly curate of Cyffylliog.

#### LLANELIAN.

THE original name of this place appears to have been that which is still retained for its chief township, *Bodlenyn*; but it has been superseded for the parish by the one derived from its proximity to the notorious "Cursing Well," Ffynnon Elian,<sup>14</sup> in the township of Eirias, which is ecclesiastically in the parish of Llandrillo, but for civil purposes has its own independent guardians and overseers. The parish

<sup>1</sup> V. Llansannan, 1614; Canon, 1624.

<sup>2</sup> Prebendary of Faenol, 1671.

<sup>3</sup> Canon, 1679.

<sup>4</sup> He was of Gwrych.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llangar; editor of *Hanes y Ffydd*, and translator into Welsh of *Grotius de Veritate Christianæ Religionis*, etc.

<sup>6</sup> R. Gwaunysgor, 1760; R. Lllysfaen, 1762; V. Nantglyn, 1788.

<sup>7</sup> Schoolmaster of St. Asaph.

<sup>8</sup> Built the glebe house.

<sup>9</sup> R. Bodvari, 1818.

<sup>10</sup> R. Llanycil, 1819; V. Bettws-yn-Rhôs, 1826.

<sup>11</sup> V. Cilcain, 1826.

<sup>12</sup> V. Bettws-yn-Rhôs, 1858; R. Caerwys, 1859.

<sup>13</sup> V. Whitford, 1865.

<sup>14</sup> "The ceremony (of cursing) is performed by the applicant standing upon a certain spot near the well, whilst the owner of it reads a few passages of the Sacred Scriptures, and then taking a small quantity of water, gives it to the former to drink, and throws the residue over his head; which is repeated three times, the party continuing to mutter his imprecations in whatever terms his vengeance may dictate." (Lewis' *Topographical Dictionary*.) At that time (1832) it was visited by hundreds of persons for that villainous purpose. I have myself known a man in my own parish who lost £80 rather than ask for it back again, for fear of being put into the well, and have met with a person in England pining away under the belief that she had been so cursed.



contains four townships, Bodlenin, Teyrdan, Twynan, and Llaethfan, with an area of 3,382 a. 3 r., of which 3,032 a. 2 r. 4 p. are rated at £2,924 1s. Population, 548.

"*Ecclesia de Bodwelennyn taxatur £4 : 2 : 1, decima 8s. 2½d.*," is the record given in the *Taxatio* of 1291; and in the *Valor* of 1535 we read, "*Rectoria de Llan Elion valet clare £11 : 1 : 8 ; inde pro xma p'te d'no Regi debit £1 : 2 : 2.*" The terrier of 1730 throws much light on the relation of this parish as well to that of Llysfaen as to that of Llandrillo, which is, no doubt, the mother church of both. It is there stated, that whilst in *Bodlennin* and *Teirdan* all the tithes belong to the rector, in the township of *Twynan*, of the great tithes the rector receives one third (excepting the tithe of Brynnyroddyn, which wholly belongeth unto Llysfaen), and the rector and vicar of Llandrillo another third each, on account of prescription and a pretended mother church! "But there are four sermons due from the sayd rector and vicar to the parish of Llanelian, there to be preached by the sayd vicar on four severall Sundays in the year, or the summe of twenty shillings per ann. to be paid by the sayd rector or vicar to the rector of Llanelian in lieu of the s'd sermons"; but all the small tithes (except those of Penydared, which the vicar of Llandrillo claims and those of Brynnyroddyn, which belong to Llysfaen) to the rector. And in the township of *Llaethfan*, whilst the great tithes were equally divided between the rector and the Bishop of St. Asaph, the small ones were in the proportion of two thirds to the former, and one third to the latter. The Tithe Commutation Returns give their then value and disposition as follows: £160 : 19 : 6¼ to Bishop of St. Asaph (now the Ecclesiastical Commissioners); £327 : 16 : 0½ to rector; £35 : 12 : 6½ to vicar of Llandrillo yn Rhos; £17 : 17 : 9 to rector of Llysfaen; £1 : 8 : 8 to parish clerk.

The parsonage house was erected in 1832, and there are three acres of glebe attached. Patron, the Bishop of St. Asaph.

The church, St. Hilary, or Eleri (Jan. 13), is a double body of five equal bays, the two easternmost of which formed the chancel, as witnessed by the still remaining lower portion of the old screen; and at the restoration of the church, in 1859, this portion was seated stall-wise all round. The chancel proper is on the south side; the wooden ceiling above the Communion Table having once been richly painted with the sacred monogram and other devices, which have become almost obliterated from the effects of age and many coats of plaster. The corresponding portion of the north aisle is vaulted in timber painted blue, and ornamented with gilt bosses. The pillars are hexagonal, without capitals, and the arches plain. The east windows are filled with memorial glass; that of the chancel, of three lights, repre-

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<sup>1</sup> The tithe of one day's math also in *Gweirglodd Isallt* belongs to this township, and pays in lieu thereof one shilling yearly; of which six-pence belongs to the rector of Llandrillo, four-pence to the rector of Llanelian, and two-pence to the vicar of Llandrillo.

sents the Crucifixion, and is in memory of John Lloyd Wynne of Coed Cŏch and Teyrdan, ob. 1862. That of the north aisle contains the four Evangelists in its four lights, and is memorial to Mary, daughter and heiress of John Holland of Teyrdan, and wife of the above J. Ll. Wynne, ob. 1844. The pulpit and desk are in the north aisle, and in its north-west angle is a newly screened-off vestry. The old north door has been closed up, and the western one is disused, the entrance now being through the south porch.

The National School was erected in 1865 by Mr. J. Lloyd Wynne of Coed Cŏch, and a grant from the National Society. A sum of £154, a portion of the proceeds of a bazaar at Coed Cŏch in 1867, has been invested in the Delhi Railway Capital Stock, 5 per cent., for the benefit of the school.

The other charities are: 10s. per ann. on Orsedd Gelyn, interest of £10 left by Mr. Edward Hughes of Bettws; £4:10:6, interest of £150, benefactions to the poor,<sup>1</sup> invested in the St. Asaph Savings' Bank in November 1863.

## RECTORS.

1537.—SALUSBURY, Thomas	1627.—EVANS, William, A.M.
1555.—LEWIS, Richard	1660.—PARRY, Maurice
1556.—RICE WYNNE AB LL'EN	1683.—GRIFFITH, John <sup>3</sup>
1557.—RICE AP DAVID	1689.—ROBERTS, Sampson <sup>4</sup>
1589.—LEWIS, Thomas	1727.—WILLIAMS, William <sup>5</sup>
—— RICHARDS, J.	1749.—EDWARDS, Thomas, M.A. <sup>6</sup>
1598.—VAUGHAN, J. <sup>2</sup>	1752.—PRICE, David
1602.—EDWARDS, Richard	1794.—ELLIS, John
1623.—JONES, Humphrey	1831.—ALBAN, Thomas <sup>7</sup>
1624.—JONES, Edward	1859.—JACKSON, Richd. H., M.A. <sup>8</sup>

1867.—THOMAS, David Morgan, M.A., Jesus College, Oxon.; Deacon, 1853; Priest, 1854; curate of Pontyberem, 1853-5; Aberystwith, 1855-6; Llanrwst, 1856-60; R. Llanyceil, 1860-7.

<sup>1</sup> The principal donors were, Mary Foulks of Gwyndy, Bettws, £50; Elizabeth Edwards of Vigin, £40; and John Humphrey of Tanyllan, £10.

<sup>2</sup> V. St. Martin's, 1575; R. Llanwyddelan, 1576.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llangernyw, 1689.

<sup>4</sup> V. Bettws-yn-Rhŏs, 1717.

<sup>5</sup> Of Pabo in Llangwstenyn; R. Llansantffraid Glyn Dyfrdwy, 1702.

<sup>6</sup> V. Cilcain, 1740.

<sup>7</sup> V. Llandrillo yn-Rhos, 1816.

<sup>8</sup> Jesus College, Oxford; P. C. Newmarket, 1851-9. Author of *Amaeth-yddiaeth yr Uchel-diroedd*, an Essay on upland farming.

## LLANFAIR TALHAIARN.

THIS parish consists of twelve townships, having an area of some 11,949 acres, of the rateable value of £6,879, with a population of 1,155. From earliest times the tithes of the parish have formed the prebends of certain canons of the Cathedral, who have derived their title from them. Thus in 1291 the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas tells us that “*Ecclesia de Lanveyrdalhaern taxatur cum Canonico Ithall Vachan cui est annexa*,” which it gives as “*Canonia Ithael Vachan in ipsa Ecclesia et proventus in Capella de Lanveyr Dalhaeayn ad eandem Canoniam pertinent, taxat’ £8*”; and also adds, “*Canonia David ap Lowarch in ipsa Ecclesia et proventus in Capella de Lanveyr predicta*,” which is also of the same value. The *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1535 also mentions “*Llanwaire Dathayrne*” as appropriate “*Prebendariis Ecclesiæ Cathedralis*,” and gives its value as £20, equally divided between the two comportioner prebendaries, Crayfforde and Hugh Puleston. How soon a portion was assigned to the Dean does not appear; but in 1639 a certain composition or order was made by Bishop Owen, and it is probable that it was by this that the tithes of all the parish north of the Elwy were assigned to the Dean, and of all to the south of it to the two comportioners; the proportion of the whole being about one third to the Dean, and the remaining two thirds equally between the other two. The Commutation Returns give £260 to the Dean of St. Asaph, and £4 to the parish clerk, from the townships of Garthewin, Bodrhychwyn, Ceunant, Cylar (vel Ciliau), and Tre’rbont *alias* Dolganer; and £460 10s. to the two comportionary prebendaries, and £8 to the parish clerk, for the townships of Pryslygod, Barrog, Melai, Drebach, Petruall, Cornwall, and Talhaiarn. The tithes appropriated to the deanery and prebends have since then become vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who, by an Order in Council, Aug. 30, 1862, assigned to the vicar a tithe rent-charge of £260 in lieu of the stipend of £56 previously paid by the appropriators to the curate in charge, and they have subsequently increased it to £387:6:10,<sup>1</sup> besides building in 1863 a good glebe house. There are also ten acres of glebe land.

The church, St. Mary’s, is a double parallelogram, and very plain; re-roofed and repaired in 1839, at an outlay of £205. In the east wall is an ambry, and on the south one a painting of King David playing on the harp, such as was common in churches a century ago. At the west end a large bath or baptistery was constructed in 1849 for the immersion of adults; and there are also an ancient font of plain design (if its present state be not the result of squaring after mutilation), which appears to have once stood on pillars; and a modern marble basin in a mahogany frame, which has probably been

<sup>1</sup> This was in lieu of certain payments previously made from Queen Anne’s Bounty.



a christening gift to the church. There is also preserved in the churchyard another hollow stone, which may have been a stoup or a piscina. The date, 1669, on the belfry-cross, indicates that some restoration was effected at that time, after the troubles of the Cromwellian era,—troubles further testified to by the subsequent entry into the oldest Register, which dates from Dec. 20, 1668, of several births and deaths, relating chiefly to the Salisburies and Wynnes of Melai, that had occurred during that period. On the jamb of the western door there was formerly an inscription to one who died of the plague of 1603,<sup>1</sup> in which 30,578 perished in London. And in the cupboard of the Communion Table are the Orders in Council issued 1745-9, for stamping out the cattle-plague, prayers to be used during its continuance, and forms of thanksgiving for its cessation.

*The National School.*—In 1708 Dr. Jones, Dean of Bangor, and one of the comportioners, gave £50 for the establishment of a charity school here. This was increased by two other donations to £60, of which sum £32 was invested, in 1717, in the purchase of Ffridd-yr-Hirdir, containing eight or nine acres; and £28 lent on interest to the parish in 1809, to build the charity or almshouses. In 1835 Colonel Wynne of Garthwin gave a site for a new school, and the following year added as an endowment a farm of ninety-four acres, called Pentredu, out of the rent of which £15 a year were to be paid to the Llanddulas National School. Both schools to be conducted in connexion with the National Society, and on the principles of the Established Church. The present endowments from the above sources amount to £42 per ann.

The Charity Houses were erected in 1809, with £100 of Consolidated Charities left between 1708 and 1738, and a portion of Dr. Jones' gift. They are seven in number.

The other charities are: £1 10s. per ann., charged on Cynnant Farm by Anne LLOYD in 1692; and £90 due out of Nant-Mawr estate, bequeathed by John WYNNE of Melai in 1688, the interest of which, with the former, is distributed to the poor at Christmas.

Of three charities, mentioned in Gilbert's Return, £25 by Abel Mitchell in 1689; £5 by Robert Wynne, 1734; and £5 by Ffoulk Hughes, 1735, nothing is known; but probably the two last were included in the Consolidated Charities; and for the former, see the similar case of Henllan.

The cure, which had previously been a perpetual curacy, was in 1866 constituted a rectory.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES.

1760.—EVANS, Evan, "*Ieuan Brydydd Hir*," a bard and critic, who published in 1764 a volume of ancient Welsh poems prefixed by a learned "*Dissertatio de Bardis*," and in 1776 two volumes of Welsh Sermons translated from Tillotson and others.

<sup>1</sup> "Ievanus ap Rees Jevan, Generosus, qui obiit MDCLIII ætatis suæ, *climacterico magno*, 63."



1800.—GOODMAN-JONES, Robert.

1804.—JONES, J. W.

1807.—PARRY, Thomas, R. Llysfaen, 1823; V. Llandrillo yn Rhos, 1835.

1816.—MOULSDALE, Thomas Gorst, B.A., V. Hope, 1830; V. Llanfair Caereinion, 1836.

1830.—OLDFIELD, Edward, M.A., R. Llysfaen, 1835.

1835.—WILLIAMS, William, R. Gwaunyngor, 1847; V. Llanrhaidr-yn-Mochnant, 1850.

1847.—EVANS, David Michael, Lampeter, author of a "Sermon on Immersion in Baptism as lawful in the Church of England," preached on the erection of the new baptistery.

#### RECTOR.

1866.—LEWIS, Evan, B.D., Lampeter, Senior Scholar; Deac., 1843; Pr., 1844; Assistant Tutor at Lampeter, 1842; Master of Cardigan Grammar School, 1844; C. of Whittington, 1845; Moreton, 1850; P. C. St. Catherine's, Colwyn, 1855-66.

#### LLANGERNYW.

THE nine townships of this parish are, Bodrach, Nannerth, Pant-y-manus, Pentrewern, Rhanhir, Hafodunos, Dwyafon, Branar, Marchaled, and Bodgynweh, having an area of 7,200 acres, of the rateable value of £4,387:13:9, and a population of 1,245. In 1867, however, the whole of the three first mentioned townships, and part of the three next, with an area of about 3,100 acres, and a population of 650, were constituted into the new ecclesiastical district of Llanddewi.

"Llangernyw, .....man, (? Pant-y-manus), Bodgynweh, and Uchaled (? Marchaled), are enumerated among the original grants of Maelgwn Gwynedd to St. Kentigern,<sup>1</sup> and have evidently been, from very early times, attached to the bishopric. In 1244 some of the episcopal lands here were relieved from certain fines and duties.<sup>2</sup> The great tithes were also early appropriated to the Cathedral. Thus in 1291 we read that "Ecclesia de Llangernyw est Capella Cathedralis Ecclesie annexa Canonie Thome Presbyteri," and that the value of the said canonry, inclusive of Tremeirchion and Faenol, was £16:13:4; "inde dec. £1:13:4." Likewise in 1535, "Rectoria de Llangernew appropriatur Prebendario de Vaynoll, et valet £13:3:4"; whilst the

<sup>1</sup> Suprà, p. 180.

<sup>2</sup> "Test' A. Ep'i Ass' quod heredes Goronw Velin quod ad terram Ep'i apud Llangerniw liberi sunt ab omni relevio, amobragio et salario porrectionis terrarum, l Gobyr Estyn. Ita tamen quod marca una Ep'is annuatim ad festum Omnium Sanctorum persolvant, et Dyroc et Canilovo si forefecerint. Dat' die Veneris post festum Apostolorum Philippi et Jacobi a'o 1244." (*Llyfr Cêch*, 53A.)

"vicaria," after deducting a "sexta" to the bishop, and a portion to the rector, was returned at £7 6s. net, "inde 14s. 7½d. Regi." The Commutation divided the whole tithes equally between the rector and vicar, giving to each £273 : 9 : 4. On the death of Prebendary Cleaver the rectorial tithes became vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who, on the lease thereof expiring in 1866, assigned £207 : 8 : 2 there-out as an endowment to the daughter church of Llanddewi, and added the remainder as an augmentation to the vicarage. The vicar has in addition a good glebe house, built in 1817, and 20 a. 1r. of glebe.

The church, founded by Digain, son of Cystynyn Gorneu, a saint of the fifth century (whose festival was held on Nov. 21), is cruciform in plan, and has been substantially repaired in 1848. An early Pointed doorway on the south side has been converted into a window ; but the stoup still occupies its place on the right hand side. The present entrance is through a north porch. An old gallery was at the same time removed from the west end, and open seats, to hold four hundred, substituted throughout the church. The font has been somewhat mutilated, but is of Perpendicular character, and shows quatrefoils and the Tudor flower on alternate panels. The old poor-box is dated 1691.<sup>1</sup> The chancel-window is filled with memorial-glass to Howel Lloyd of Hafodunos (ob. 1783) and Dorothea his wife (ob. 1801). The subjects are, in the central compartment, the Last Judgment, with the Commission underneath, and Works of Mercy in the side-lights. In the south transept a painted window by Ballantine, erected by subscription to the memory of Margaret, wife of H. R. Sandbach of Hafodunos (ob. 1852), has subjects illustrative of Faith, Hope, brotherly kindness, and Charity, with the underlying texts, "In Thee, O Lord, have I put my trust," "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth," "Blessed is he that remembereth the poor," and "Thy law is within my heart." On the north-east wall of the same transept is a mural tablet with two medallion portraits, by Gibson, of Samuel and Mrs. Sandbach. In the churchyard are two pairs of large, upright

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<sup>1</sup> The Rural Dean's Report for 1749 has a curious notice suggestive of the primitive ways of the place and of the old connexion between the fairs and the Church. "Here is one custom which I think very odd and unbecoming, and which ought to be altered. There are five fairs yearly kept at this village, and at every one of them the churchyard-porch (*i. e.*, the lych-gate) is made use of by butchers to hang and sell their meat in. Earthen and wooden ware, wool, and several other things, are exposed for sale in the churchyard, and I saw some pedlers have their stalls there. In the church-porch are kept, by the clerk, collars, bridles, pack-saddles, ropes, and other gears. These, indeed, were formerly kept, as I am told, in the church ; and they may, perhaps, be so again, unless they are in time ordered further from it." This may have had special reference to the horse and its gear ; but happily the whole thing was remedied in the following year, though not without some difficulty and opposition.

stones<sup>1</sup> lying east and west, one pair of which bears a roughly incised cross. They apparently mark the grave of some early Christian chieftain.

The charities of the parish are: (1), a rent-charge of £5 per ann., given in 1641 by "John Davies, citizen and chirurgier-barber of London," payable on a portion of what is now the Hafodunos estate; and (2), a farm called "Tynycaeau," in the parish of Llandrillo yn Rhos, containing about twenty-eight acres, purchased, in 1748, with £115 of Consolidated Charities,<sup>2</sup> and £15 added thereto from the poor's rate. The present rental is £16 per ann. They are now disposed of by the vicar and churchwardens, to the poor of the parish, on St. Thomas' Day.

The National School was erected in 1827.

## VICARS.

1537.—Richard ap Ll'en Vychan	1706.—STODART, Robert
1551.—POWELL, J., or Ap Howel <sup>3</sup>	1730.—KENRICK, John, B.A. <sup>11</sup>
1574.—SMITH, George, LL.B. <sup>4</sup>	1755.—LLOYD, David
1580.—LLOYD, David, LL.B. <sup>5</sup>	1779.—BAKER, Thomas <sup>12</sup>
1606.—PIGOT, Richard <sup>6</sup>	1783.—CLOUGH, Thomas <sup>13</sup>
1609.—LLOYD, Richard	1787.—STODART, David <sup>14</sup>
1621.—DOLBEN, David, D.D. <sup>7</sup>	1788.—WILLIAMS, William, M.A. <sup>15</sup>
1631.—LLOYD, Richard	1797.—THOMAS, Robert <sup>16</sup>
1662.—SALUSBURY, William <sup>8</sup>	1815.—STRONG, George <sup>17</sup>
1662.—MAURICE, David <sup>9</sup>	1817.—ROBERTS, Robert Jones
1675.—GRIFFITH, Peter	1828.—WILLIAMS, Edmund, M.A.
1682.—VAUGHAN, Peter, M.A.	1837.—ROBERTS, John
1689.—GRIFFITH, John <sup>10</sup>	

1843.—JONES, Edward Lloyd, B.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Deac. and Pr., 1825; curate of Meliden, 1826-43.

<sup>1</sup> The local tradition states them to have been drawn hither by two "ychain bannog," large horned oxen or bisons, such as formerly existed in the country, and of which many curious stories survive.

<sup>2</sup> These embrace £50 by Mrs. Ursula Lloyd; £10 each from Foulk ap Richard, Griffith Williams, Catherine vch Richard, Alice Morris, and Richard ap Ellis; £5 each from Mr. Tanner and Dr. John Davies; £3 from John Edmund; and £2 from William ap Evan.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llanrwst, 1537; Canon, 1552.

<sup>4</sup> Chanc. of Diocese, 1595 (p. 239).

<sup>5</sup> V. Eglwysfach, 1564; R. Cerrig y drudion, 1574.

<sup>6</sup> V. Llanrwst, 1609; R. Denbigh, 1614.

<sup>7</sup> Prebendary of Faenol, 1625; Bishop of Bangor, 1631.

<sup>8</sup> R. St. George, 1661.

<sup>9</sup> R. St. George, 1662.

<sup>10</sup> R. Llanellian, 1683.

<sup>11</sup> Schoolmaster of Llanrwst, 1715. Rebuilt the vicarage-house.

<sup>12</sup> V. Llanbrynmair, 1783; V. Llanfair Caereinion, 1787.

<sup>13</sup> R. Halkin, Canon, 1794; R. Denbigh, 1797.

<sup>14</sup> R. Llandderfel, 1788.

<sup>15</sup> V. choral, 1794; R. Ysceifiog, 1826; Canon, 1827.

<sup>16</sup> V. choral, 1781; R. Gwaunysgor, 1796.

<sup>17</sup> V. choral, 1801; V. Llansannan, 1817.



## LLANDDEWI.

THIS new district, gazetted 5th February, 1867, is formed out of the southern half of the parish of Llangernyw, and embraces the townships of Bodrach, Nannerth, Pantymanus, and portions of Pentrevern, Rhanhir, and Hafodunos, with an area of about 3,100 acres, and a population of 650. The living is a vicarage, endowed with £207:8:8 out of the tithes of the sinecure rectory, which lapsed to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners on March 1, 1866. Twelve and a half acres of glebe have also been promised<sup>1</sup> on the condition of being met by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners with a money grant towards building a parsonage. The patronage belongs to the Bishop of the diocese.

The church (St. David's) consists of nave and chancel, with organ-chamber and vestry on the south side, and on the north side a tower with a peal of three bells. Underneath it is the principal entrance to the church, and it is surmounted by a spire. The plans are by Mr. John O. Scott, and in the Early English style. The chancel-seats are made of bulley-tree wood,—a dark and heavy material resembling unpolished mahogany,—and the flooring of the chancel and nave is of Maw's encaustic tiles. The site for the church, the bells, and the organ, a Scudamore, were the gifts of Mr. Henry R. Sandbach; the Communion Table and altar-cloth, the gift and work of Mrs. Sandbach; the service-books were presented by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge; the altar-stand by Miss Williams of Bryngwyn; and the encaustic tiles of the chancel by the Rev. W. Maddock Williams, rector of Llanfechain. The east window, of three lights, is filled with Powell's quarries, banded with texts; and there is also a rose-window filled with the same, above the triplet at the west end. The seats, which are free, and open, are intended to hold 219. The cost was about £2,700, which was contributed partly by subscriptions, but chiefly by Mr. Sandbach. The church was consecrated by Bishop Short on the 26th July, 1867.

*Vicar.*—1867. WATKINS, Watkin Morgan, Lampeter, Phillips' and Senior Scholar; Deac., 1857; Pr., 1858; curate of Llangernyw, 1861-7.

## LLANNEFYDD.

IN this parish are eight townships, Llechryd, Berain, Talybryn, Mofoniog, Bodysgaw, Dinascadfel, Penporchell, and Carwedfynydd, embracing an area of 7,444 a. 20 p.; having a rateable value of £6,124 15s., and an agricultural population of 1,062.

Ecclesiastically it has, from time immemorial, been attached to the

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<sup>1</sup> Rather more than ten acres by Mr. Sandbach of Hafodunos, and the rest by Mr. Brownlow Wynne of Garthwin.



Cathedral as a subject *capella*, and its rectorial tithes have formed a chief portion of the stipend of one of the canons,—since 1304 that of the Chancellor, whose stall was named in consequence the Prebend of Llanefydd.<sup>1</sup> Originally, indeed, the distant township of Tir-yr-Abbot, in Pentrevoelas, formed a part of the parish; and a copy of the arrangement is still extant in which the brethren of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, at Dolygynwal (*i. e.* Ysptyty Ieuan), agree to perform the offices of the church and administer the Sacraments “parochianis de Llanelwy habitantibus in Hiraethocke de progenie Marchweithian et Wynn,” in their church at Dolygynwal, on the condition that they should receive in return a third part of all the tithes and offerings of the said inhabitants.<sup>2</sup> In the *Valor Eccles.* the prebendary of Llanefydd is said to receive a portion of £10 from Llan-ywith Uwch Mynydd; £5 would, therefore, be the other third; and this sum continued to be paid out of the tithes of the township until at least the year 1729, to the curate of Ysptyty, on condition of his “reading prayers and administering the Sacrament four times a year, and yearly on Good Friday, in a certain chappel called ‘Cappel Vidog,’ *alias* ‘Cappel y Foylas,’ for the ease of the inhabitants of the said township.” The fees, moreover, for marriage and for the administration of property of persons who died in that township, were at that time all payable to the minister of Llanefydd; but it is no longer the case.

The *Taxatio* of 1291 has “Ecclesia de *Laundid* est capella Cathedral Ecclesie annexa prebende Ithael Vachan et taxatur £13:6:8; dec., £1:6:8; vicaria, £2:13:4 non dec.”; and the *Valor* of 1535 puts the rectory as worth £20, besides the “porcic of £10 from Llan-yfith Uwghmyneth already alluded to. The vicarage at the same time was worth £10, and £1:6:8 was paid, as “*sexta*,” to the Bishop. The commuted value of the tithes is £260 to the vicar, and £464 to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for the lapsed prebend. At present, however, the Commissioners receive but £60 per ann. from the above (a lease on three lives, on which the tithes have been let, not yet having expired); but they have, nevertheless, augmented the vicarage by £82 per ann.; and have given £1,400 towards a new parsonage house, now being built, in lieu of an older one erected in 1775. There are also three acres of glebe attached to the living, which is in the gift of the Bishop of the diocese.

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<sup>1</sup> In a Chapter held by Bishop Llewelyn ap Ynyr in 1304: “Duximus ordinandum quod *Madocus ap Hofa* habeat canoniam quam tenuit Ithel Vaughan in Eccl'ia Assavens',—excepta capella de Llan-yfith quam canonie *Cynwric Lloid*, salva porcione vicarii, duximus annectendam, ita tamen quod dictus *Cynwric* in territorio Ecclesie Assavens', debite et honeste juxta statum beneficii sui *edificet* et ibidem continuè personaliter resideat.”

<sup>2</sup> *Llyfr C6ch.* The term “parochianis de Llanelwy” bears reference to the rector, not the vicar, of Llanelwy.

The church, founded by Nefydd,<sup>1</sup> the daughter of Brychan Brychiniog, in the fifth century,<sup>2</sup> and subsequently rebuilt and rededicated in the name of St. Mary the Virgin (Sept. 8th), is a double edifice of two equal aisles, with a south porch, and a vestry at the west end, in which the school was kept until the erection of the new National School. The Communion plate is dated 1575, and the font 1668. There is an early floriated cross of much beauty, and later monuments dating from 1614. The chancel window is a Perpendicular of good design, similar to that at Whitechurch. Internally, the church is pewed throughout, has the pulpit and desk on the north wall, and a gallery at the west end.<sup>3</sup> It was reopened on the 21st October, 1859, after considerable repairs which cost £636:17:2; of which sum £290 were contributed by Miss Roberts, sister of the vicar.

At Llysmeirchion there was formerly a chapel, probably a domestic one, and its site is now occupied by the kitchen of that house.

The new National School, with master's house, was built in 1866 at a cost of about £700 raised by subscription and grants.<sup>4</sup> It is not endowed; but the trustees (the vicar and churchwardens) have for some years voted £9 10s., the rental of Nantycerydd, in Abergele parish (bought in 1731 with £115 of charity money<sup>5</sup>), to the master for teaching the children of the poor at one penny per week.

Other charities paid to the poor are:

£1 per ann., rent-charge on Penygær, by Pierce OWEN in 1654.

£2     "     "     Tanyronen, by MAURICE AP SION in 1717.

£2     "     "     Foel, in Berain, by Evan HUGHES, in 1729.

A sum of £25, by one Abel Mitchell, has shared the fate of a similar gift to the neighbouring parishes of Henllan, Llanfair, and Llan-sannan; if it ever was paid.

#### VICARS.

1537.—PARKER, Robert

1560.—LEWIS, John

1589.—MORRICE, Evan

1639.—LLOYD, Thomas, A.M.

1640.—HUGHES, Thomas

1643.—BRIGDALE, J.

1680.—LLOYD, Bishop *in commendam*

1681.—EDWARDS, Peter

1703.—WYNNE, Meredith<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Ffynnon Nefydd* still exists near the village.

<sup>2</sup> *Pant yr Hen Eglwys*, not far from the Well, probably marks the site of this first foundation.

<sup>3</sup> Here lies the famous Catherine of Berain; and in the churchyard is a "monument of a couple who lived in matrimony eighty years, and died the same month." (Z.)

<sup>4</sup> National Society, £50; Carey Fund, £40.

<sup>5</sup> A list of bequests on the church enumerates £50 by Ambrose Wynne in 1671; £20 each by Mrs. Anne Ffoulkes in 1740, and Mrs. Jane Wynne, 1751; £10 each by Thomas Llwyd, 1702; Thos. Griffith, 1705; Mrs. Dorothy Lloyd, 1709; and other small sums, amounting to £143 4s.

<sup>6</sup> Of Plas Ucha (*hodie* Coed Côch). S. R. Llansannan; Canon, 1718.

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| 1728.—LEWIS, John                     | 1772.—CHAMBRES-JONES, Edward,            |
| 1737.—INGRAM, Richard, B.A.           | M.A. <sup>3</sup>                        |
| 1739.—TAMBERLANE, Robert <sup>1</sup> | 1817.—CHAMBRES-CHAMBRES, R. <sup>4</sup> |
| 1743.—MEYRICK, Edward <sup>2</sup>    | 1832.—JONES, William                     |
| 1762.—LLOYD, Owen                     | 1843.—ROBERTS, John, B.A. <sup>5</sup>   |

1865.—JONES, Ebenezer, B.A., Trin. Coll., Dublin; Deac., 1854; Pr., 1855; curate of Aberdare, 1853; Llanelly, 1857-61; Llannefydd, 1861-5.

### LLANSANNAN.

THIS is a very extensive, mountainous parish in the upper division of Isaled, embracing an area of 18,473 acres, or twenty-eight square miles; having a rateable value of £5,743, and a population of 1,111 in its thirteen townships of Treflach, Mostyn and Hendreunig,<sup>6</sup> Llan-sannan, Rhydeidion, Beidiog, Penaled,<sup>7</sup> Llysaed, Archwedlog, Chwibren,<sup>8</sup> Heskin, Deunant, Arllwyd, and Grugor. Of these, however, Grugor with portions of Archwedlog and Deunant, forming the southern portion of the parish, have been transferred to the new ecclesiastical district of Bylechau.

Sannan, the founder of the church, who is said to have been an Irish saint and bishop, a friend of St. David, and a companion of St. Winifred's father, is stated to have lived here in religious seclusion, and to have been buried at Gwytherin; and we shall, at all events, find evidence of an early and close connexion between these two parishes. In the *Taxatio* of 1291 we read, "Ecclesia de Llan-saman divisa est; taxat' Porcio Iorwerth ap Adaf £6; dec., 12s.; Porcio David ap Keneur, £6; dec., 12s. *Vicaria*, £4:3:4; dec., 8s. 4d." And in the *Valor Eccles.* of 1535 the "Due Porc'o'es de Llansaman valent clare £13:0:10," giving to each compportioner £6:10:5; while the vicarage was returned at £5:0:4. By Bishop Barrow's Act it was provided that such one of the rectories proportionary of Llansannan which shall first become void, and the vicarage thereof, from and after the first vacancy of the said rectory, shall be united, and the vicar thereof at the time shall be rector with cure of souls. This union came into effect in 1683; but the old title of vicar has, notwithstanding the above provision, been retained. The division of the tithes henceforth was as follows: "the vicar and compportioner has 2 qrs. and  $\frac{1}{2}$  a quarter, viz.  $\frac{8}{9}$ ,  $\frac{8}{9}$ , of all tithes (except Postyn and Beidiog). The other compportioner has  $\frac{1}{9}$  of the same. The vicar and

<sup>1</sup> R. Llanferras, 1743.

<sup>2</sup> Master of the Grammar School, Denbigh.

<sup>3</sup> Vic. chor., 1777; V. Henllan, 1772; V. Llansannan, 1782; Canon, 1784.

<sup>4</sup> Son of above E. C. J.

<sup>5</sup> Resigned 1865.

<sup>6</sup> "Hendrenewydd" and "Postyn." MS. Z., c. 1730.

<sup>7</sup> "Pennantaled." Z.

<sup>8</sup> "Chwibion." Z.



comportioner has  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the tithes of Beidiog and Postyn;  $\frac{2}{3}$  of Postyn belong to the Bishop, and  $\frac{1}{3}$  of Beidiog; the other third to the rector of Gwytherin, except the wool, lamb, and other small tithes."<sup>1</sup> These have been commuted at £412 to the vicar, £220 to the proportionary rector (now Ecclesiastical Commissioners), £16 to the Bishop of St. Asaph (ditto), £7 to the rector of Gwytherin. The vicar, or rather rector, has also a glebe house built by Vicar Lloyd, 1726, and four acres of land. The patronage has recently been transferred from the Bishop of this diocese to the Bishop of St. David's.

The church, St. Saman (March 1), was rebuilt in 1777, and consists of two equal aisles with south porch and western bell-gable. It was probably at this time that "the partition which divides the chancel from the body of the church," mentioned in a petition to the Bishop about a seat in the church in 1682, was removed. There is nothing of general interest attached to the present edifice, and there is a probability of its restoration after a more ecclesiastical type.

The old National School, built in 1812 at a cost of £60, was superseded in 1857 by a new and commodious one, with master's house, erected by subscriptions and grants from the Privy Council and the National Society.

The Charity Report (1837) mentions two rent-charges bequeathed to the poor: £1 10s. by Anne LLOYD, of Plas Madog in Llanfair, charged in 1692 on Tyddyn Rhydeidion; £1 by Evan HUGHES, on Moel in Llanefydd.

A resolution of vestry, in 1731, mentions £60 belonging to the poor<sup>2</sup> then out at interest, and orders it to be called in towards repairing the church; and another, in 1743, orders £24 19s. belonging to the poor, probably a portion of the above, to be used by the wardens for its repairs; £1 5s. to be annually allowed for the same out of the church rate. This, however, has long been discontinued, and the charity is so far lost.

In this parish was *Caedu*, the refuge and study of William Salusbury, the first translator of the New Testament into Welsh.<sup>3</sup> Here too, at Dyffryn Aled, lived for some time Philip Yorke, author of the "Fifteen Royal Tribes of Wales"; and at Garthgeri yn Chwibren was born, at a still earlier period, *Tudur Aled*, the bard, some of whose effusions have been published in *Gorchestion Beirdd Cymry*. A notice of *Burdd Arthur*, in Speed's *Theatre of the Empire of Great Britain*, published in 1611, is curious and interesting: "This thing is worthy of observation as a matter memorable both for admiration and antiquity, that

<sup>1</sup> MS. Book Z.

<sup>2</sup> There seems to have been a consolidation of the other charities recorded on a tablet on the north wall of the church,—*e. g.*, Dafydd ap Robert, Nant-ymerddyn, £30; Richard Wynne of Plas yn Cornel, £20; and £5 each by Sir W. Myddelton and Owen Wynne, Treflach; to which Robert Wynne Yorke, of Dyffryn Aled, added another similar sum.

<sup>3</sup> See p. 83, *suprà*.



in the parish of Llansannan there is a place compasse cut out of the maine rocke by man's hand, in the side of a stony hill, wherein there be foure and twentie seats to sit in, some lesse, some bigger, where children and young men coming to seek for their cattel, use to sit and to have their sports, and at this day they commonly call it 'Arthur's Round Table.'

## SINECURE RECTORS.

## FIRST COMPORTION.

- 1537.—SALUSBURY, Robert<sup>1</sup>  
 1554.—MYDDELTON, William<sup>2</sup>  
 1561.—JONES, Henry, LL.D.<sup>3</sup>  
 1591.—KENRICK, Lawrence  
 1598.—VAUGHAN, Owen<sup>4</sup>  
 1599.—VAUGHAN, William, D.D.<sup>5</sup>  
 1603.—GOODMAN, Godfrey, M.A.  
 1605.—GRIFFITH, Jasper<sup>6</sup>  
 1614.—PRICHARD, Robert<sup>7</sup>  
 1631.—POWELL, Edward  
 1641.—MAURICE, Andrew, A.M.<sup>8</sup>  
 1666.—LLOYD, John, A.M.<sup>9</sup>  
 1668.—LLOYD, David, A.M.<sup>10</sup>  
 1678.—HERAULT, Lewis, D.D.<sup>11</sup>

## SECOND COMPORTION.

- 1537.—BELTON, James  
 ——— ROGERS, Richard<sup>12</sup>  
 1557.—MAURICE AP THOMAS<sup>13</sup>  
 1566.—BARTON, Godfrey<sup>14</sup>  
 1580.—VAUGHAN, William<sup>5</sup>  
 1597.—OWEN, Hugh<sup>15</sup>  
 1599.—WILLIAMS, Peter<sup>16</sup>  
 1614.—MORGAN, Evan, B.D.<sup>17</sup>  
 1615.—GOODMAN, Godfrey, M.A.<sup>18</sup>  
 1616.—PARRY, Gabriel, B.D.<sup>19</sup>  
 1617.—LLOYD, Richard, D.D.<sup>20</sup>  
 1621.—MORGAN, Evan, B.D.  
 1639.—WOOD, Howell  
 1642.—LLOYD, Thomas, A.M.

<sup>1</sup> Vicar of Corwen and sinecure rector of Llanrwst.

<sup>2</sup> "A minor and layman, deprived." (Br. Willis.) Query,—was this the translator of the first metrical version of the Psalms?

<sup>3</sup> Canon, 1560; R. Llanrwst, 1573.

<sup>4</sup> Chaplain to Bishop Morgan at Llandaff; V. Llandrillo in Edeirnion, 1595; R. Llangwm, 1598; R. Gwytherin, 1602.

<sup>5</sup> Preb. of Llannefydd, 1598.

<sup>6</sup> Warden of Ruthin, 1594.

<sup>7</sup> R. Denbigh, 1605.

<sup>8</sup> Dean of St. Asaph, 1634.

<sup>9</sup> Preb. of Llanfair, 1660; Warden of Ruthin and Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1663.

<sup>10</sup> Reader to the Charter House, 1659; chaplain to Bishop Barrow, and Prebendary of Faenol, 1671.

<sup>11</sup> Pastor of the French Church in London; R. Caerwys, 1675; Preb. of Canterbury, 1682.

<sup>12</sup> Archdeacon of St. Asaph; Bishop Suffragan of Dover, 1560; Dean of Canterbury, 1584.

<sup>13</sup> Canon, 1557.

<sup>14</sup> Canon before he was twelve years of age, by Goldwell, but deprived by Bishop Thomas Davies.

<sup>15</sup> Canon, 1592.

<sup>16</sup> Preb. of Meifod, 1598.

<sup>17</sup> R. Denbigh, 1615; Preb. of Meifod, 1617.

<sup>18</sup> Sinecure rector of Llandyssil, 1607; *Bishop of Gloucester*, 1624.

<sup>19</sup> V. Abergele, 1613; Master of Ruthin School, 1607.

<sup>20</sup> V. Gresford, 1613; V. Rhuabon, 1617; R. Ysceifiog, 1621.

## FIRST COMPORTION.

- 1682.—LLOYD, Edward  
 1685.—FORD, William, D.D.  
 1702.—MONTFORD, Samuel<sup>1</sup>  
 1720.—RICHARDS, Thomas<sup>2</sup>  
 — WYNNE, Meredith<sup>3</sup>  
 1728.—HOLBORN, Robert  
 — Bishop *in commendam*  
 1731.—OWEN, Lewis, B.D.  
 1746.—JOHNSON, ...  
 1747.—PALMER, ... D.D.  
 — DRUMMOND, Bp. *in com.*  
 1761.—BRAKENRIDGE, ... D.D.<sup>4</sup>  
 — NEWCOME, Bp. *in com.*  
 1778.—SMYTH, John, D.D.  
 1783.—SAMPSON, Charles<sup>5</sup>  
 1807.—CLOUGH, Roger B., M.A.<sup>6</sup>

## SECOND COMPORTION.

- 1643.—LLOYD, Samuel, A.M.<sup>7</sup>  
 1662.—LLOYD, David, LL.D.<sup>8</sup>  
 1663.—WILLIAMS, William<sup>9</sup>  
 1678.—JONES, Richard, LL.D.<sup>10</sup>  
 1683.—ROWLANDS, Thomas

## VICARS.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1520.—PIGOTT, Robert                     | 1614.—HOLLAND, John, A.M. <sup>13</sup> |
| 1537.—Maurice ap Thomas                  | 1617.—EDWARDS, John <sup>14</sup>       |
| —— PIGOTT, Thomas                        | 1622.—WILLIAMS, Richard, A.M.           |
| 1588.—CONWAY, Peter                      | 1660.—PRICHARD, Edward, A.M.            |
| 1598.—WILLIAMS, Owen                     | 1662.—HAMPTON, Roger <sup>15</sup>      |
| 1599.—LLOYD, Meredith                    | 1675.—LLOYD, Robert                     |
| 1611.—BERKELEY, John, D.D. <sup>11</sup> | 1696.—WILLIAMS, Thomas <sup>16</sup>    |
| 1613.—JONES, Richard <sup>12</sup>       | 1726.—LLOYD, Thomas <sup>17</sup>       |

<sup>1</sup> Master of Christ's Hospital.

<sup>2</sup> Canon, 1718.

<sup>3</sup> Of Plas Uchaf (*hodie* Coed Côch); V. Llannefydd, 1705; Canon, 1718.

<sup>4</sup> "He distinguished himself by his powers of calculation, and by that means made himself useful to Administration, and published some sermons in 1764." (B. Willis.)

<sup>5</sup> Rector of Ripley, Yorkshire.

<sup>6</sup> V. Gwyddelwern, 1791; V. Corwen, 1797; Canon, 1793.

<sup>7</sup> V. Gresford, 1635; Sinecure R. Cilcain, 1644; and R. Aldford in dioc. Chester.

<sup>8</sup> Dean of St. Asaph, 1660.

<sup>9</sup> Canon, 1679.

<sup>10</sup> Chancellor of the Diocese of Bangor.

<sup>11</sup> Head Master of Oswestry School; R. Llanddoget, 1606; R. Newtown, 1613; S. R. Llandyssil, 1622; Preb. of Llanfair, 1621.

<sup>12</sup> R. Aberhafesp, 1614.

<sup>13</sup> R. Llansantffraid Glan Conway, 1613; R. St. George, 1617; Canon, 1624.

<sup>14</sup> R. St. George, 1609; vic. chor. 1623.

<sup>15</sup> R. Llanddoget, 1623. Deprived.

<sup>16</sup> R. St. George, 1684; V. Llanrwst, 1690; R. Denbigh, 1697. Published a Welsh edition of *Nelson's Fasts and Festivals*.

<sup>17</sup> V. Llandrillo-yn-Rhos, 1718.

1758.—PRICE, James<sup>1</sup>1817.—STRONG, George<sup>3</sup>1782.—CHAMBRES-JONES, Edward,  
M.A.<sup>2</sup>1833.—JONES, John, M.A.<sup>4</sup>1836.—WILLIAMS, Peter L., M.A.<sup>5</sup>

1861.—PUGH, John, Lampeter; 1st cl. Deac., 1847; Pr., 1848; curate of Llangorse; P. C. Llanywern, near Brecon, 1859.

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### LLYSFAEN.<sup>6</sup>

THIS parish consists of five townships, Isallt, Isyffordd, Pant, Penmaen, and Rhwngyddwyffordd, with an area of 1,790 acres, of which 1,410 a. 32 p. are cultivated; of the rateable value of £3,674 : 2 : 8; and with a population of 908, mostly engaged in the limestone quarries. Originally it seems to have formed a portion of Llandrillo, as evidenced by certain mutual obligations laid down in the old terriers, and confirmed by the Commutation Returns. The *Taxatio* of 1291 simply notes, "*Rectoria di Lisnaen* taxatur £4, non decimat"; and the *Valor Eccles.* of Henry VIII only states its clear value to be £12 : 0 : 4, on which £1 : 4 : 0 $\frac{1}{4}$  were payable to the King as tenths; but the terriers record that whilst on the one hand "half the township of Penmaen tithes to the rector of Llandrillo, and out of the other moiety the vicar of Llandrillo has a third part, paying twenty shillings for four sermons; and the tithes of one day's math in Gweirglodd *Isallt* doth belong unto the township of Twynan (in Llanelian), or the sum of one shilling in lieu of the same; whereof six-pence belongs to the rector of Llandrillo, four-pence to the rector of Llanelian, and two-pence to the vicar of Llandrillo." On the other hand, all the tithes of Brynrodyn, in Llanelian, belong to the rector of Llysfaen. Hence the Commutation Returns for this parish give £232 : 16 : 2 to the rector; £41 : 14 : 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  to the Bishop of St. Asaph (as rector of Llandrillo), added by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to the rectory, 22 June, 1871; £14 : 10 : 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  to the vicar of Llandrillo; and £1 10s. to the parish clerk. The tithes of Brynrodyn, in Llanelian, which are £17 : 17 : 9, also belong to the rector; who has, moreover, a good house built in 1812, and enlarged in 1846, together with 18 a. of glebe.

The church (St. Cynfran<sup>7</sup>), which has lately been admirably re-

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<sup>1</sup> V. Bettws-yn-Rhos, 1746.

<sup>2</sup> V. Llannefydd, 1772; V. Henllan, 1772; Canon, 1784.

<sup>3</sup> P. C. of Disserth; vic. chor., 1801; V. Llangernyw, 1815.

<sup>4</sup> V. Holywell, 1807-36; V. Cwm, 1820-33.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llangar, 1826.

<sup>6</sup> "The palace or court of stone," as in Pontfaen, etc.

<sup>7</sup> "Festival, 12th November, on which day and the Sunday following the common people formerly offered here for their horned cattle. Another Montpellier." (MS. Book Z.) The petitions at the Well were phrased: "Rhadr"

stored<sup>1</sup> under the direction of Mr. G. E. Street, consists of two aisles, a portion of the southern one being screened off as a chancel. The principal features of the restoration are, a beautiful oak Screen (designed from surviving fragments of an old one) which divides the chancel from its aisle, and both from the nave; and a handsome Reredos of Caen stone, having a cross of white marble in its central compartment, and its foliated circles filled in with variegated marbles. The pulpit and font (which is square in form) are of Bath stone, well designed and worked. The floor of the chancel is laid with Godwin's, intermixed with encaustic, tiles; the seats are of oak, those of the nave being of pitch-pine. A considerable portion of the old oak roof has been used in the rebuilding, and the old walls retained; those portions, which were of the native limestone, having been rewrought, and pierced with windows in the Early English style, and buttresses added, as also a new porch and bell-turret. The east window is filled with memorial glass to the late rector, Edward Oldfield, and represents in its respective lights the Nativity, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection. Another window, the gift of the Rev. Elis Price, has been added in memory of his grandmother and brother. Other special gifts were, the coronas and altar-cloth by Mrs. Hesketh; altar-linen, etc., by Mrs. Williams-Wynn; altar-chairs by Mr. Raynes; altar-desk by Mr. Charles Frost; service-books, Mrs. Kneeshaw; oak lectern, Mr. Hughes, Brynmenai, etc.

Some beautiful new schools have also now been completed, and opened Whitsun Monday, 1871. They consist of rooms for boys and girls, mixed; class-room, and master's house. The cost, amounting to £1,700, was contributed by the parties to the church restoration, with grants from the Woods and Forests, National Society, and the Education Department.

## RECTORS.

— RISIART AP IENN AP RHYS	1613.—ROBERTS, Hugh <sup>5</sup>
1524.—GRIFFITH, J.	1614.—GRIFFITH, Owen
1567.—HUGHES, William, M.A. <sup>2</sup>	1627.—JONES, Edward
1601.—HUMPHREYS, David	1653.—VAUGHAN, Thomas, A.M. <sup>6</sup>
1606.—PARRY, Henry <sup>3</sup>	1675.—JONES, Roger <sup>7</sup>
1613.—PARRY, Gabriel, A.M. <sup>4</sup>	1726.—WILLIAMS, Owen, A.B. <sup>8</sup>

Duw a Chynfran lwyd ar y da''; *i. e.*, the blessing of God and holy Cynfran on the cattle.

<sup>1</sup> It was reopened on St. Luke's Day (18th Oct.) 1870. The cost of the restoration amounted to £1,950, the chief contributors to which were Mrs. Williams-Wynn, Cefn; R. B. Hesketh, Esq., Gwrych Castle; Bishop Short; J. Lloyd Wynne, Esq., Coed Côch; J. T. Raynes, Esq.; Henry Kershaw, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> *Bishop of St. Asaph*, 1573. See pp. 91, 92.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, 1612.

<sup>4</sup> Vicar of Abergele and of Denbigh, 1613.

<sup>6</sup> Canon in 1666.

<sup>8</sup> Head Master of Llanrwst School, 1712.

<sup>5</sup> V. Llangwm, 1609.

<sup>7</sup> V. Caerwys, 1671.



1737.—LLOYD, Thomas <sup>1</sup>	1807.—THOMAS, Hugh <sup>3</sup>
1753.—PRICE, Lewis	1810.—HUGHES, John <sup>4</sup>
1757.—JONES, Thomas	1823.—PARRY, Thomas <sup>5</sup>
1762.—PUGH, Rice <sup>2</sup>	1835.—OLDFIELD, Edward, M.A.

1868.—HUGHES, Richard Owen, Lampeter; Deac., 1850; Pr., 1852; curate of Blaenporth, 1850-53; Ruthin and Llanrhydd, 1853-57; Llanfair, D. C., 1857-59; P. C. St. James', Prion, 1859-68.

### NANTGLYN.

THIS parish, which is about seven miles in length by about four and a half in breadth, embraces a considerable extent of unenclosed mountain waste, having a total area of about twenty-six square miles. Only 4,613 acres are cultivated land, of the rateable value of £1,517. Population, 320. The townships, which were formerly two, Nantglyn Canon and Nantglyn Sanctorum, have been subdivided into four, viz., Blaenau, Plas, Hendre, and Crwnllwyn; and there was an old tradition, well supported by the old names, that there was once a sanctuary here.<sup>6</sup> The camp of "Hên Ddinbych," moreover, in its upper portion, would connect the place with the earliest introduction of Christianity; and the large waste called "Bishoppes Walle," which appears to have been once the property of the Bishop of St. Asaph, was doubtless granted to him in very early times, and by him transferred in 1506 to the augmentation of the living of Cerrig y drudion.<sup>7</sup> The *Taxatio* of 1291 gives, under "Ecclesia de Nanclyn," "rectoria valet £2:13:4; vicaria, £1:6:8"; neither of which paid tenths. This proportion of the tithes was modified in 1336, when Bishop Dafydd ap Bleddyn made the appropriation thereof to the vicars choral

<sup>1</sup> V. Llandrillo yn Rhos, 1718; V. Llansannan, 1726.

<sup>2</sup> R. Gwaunysgor, 1760; R. Llandulas, 1780; V. Nantglyn, 1788.

<sup>3</sup> R. Penegoes, 1810.

<sup>4</sup> R. Penegoes, 1799. He built the rectory houses in both parishes. He probably exchanged with his predecessor.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llanddulas, 1811; V. Llandrillo yn Rhos, 1835.

<sup>6</sup> "Noddfa oedd hi, meddant hwy." Other names that support the view are, Segrwyd (*i. e.*, Cyssegrwyd), Cae-Dai.

<sup>7</sup> "20 Apr. 1506. David, Bp., in consideration of small income of Kerigydruidion, scarce worth 7 marc. p. ann., 'ad laudem Dei et Sanctæ Mariæ Magd. et Sa. Ienn nuncupati Gwasbatryc Vanagh patroni ib'm,' united and annexed to the same 'totam nostram portionem de Nantglyn uwchmynydd, viz. de messuagiis et tenementis vocat' Elphygarret, Llynkymer, Llechwed, et Crynllwyn Tythyn y gwyn ap talwyn, Mael y dderwes erw, Lletty'r manach Hafot y mair, Pant y kriavolen, Pennair Penrhyn, hafot y ddyr; salvis 2s. 6d. pro actual.' (Z.)

and the Cathedral (reserving a sufficiency for the vicar), on the condition of two masses being said daily in the new Lady Chapel ; for in the *Valor* of 1535 the "rectoria de Nanclyn" was worth 40s. to the vicars choral, and the "vicaria" in gross £5 ; net, £4 : 13 : 4. Two years later (1537) the rectory became annexed to the *bishopric* for his table;<sup>2</sup> but the profits do not seem to have been much, for the Bishop and the vicars choral received only 6s. 8d. each from the tithes ; and in 1806 the rectory was described as a pension of 30s., divided between the Bishop and his vicars choral, the vicarage being worth about £100. The commutation assigned £180 to the vicar, who has also a glebe house built in 1823, on the borders of the parish, with 1 a. 2 r. of glebe, which is in the parish of Llanrhaiadr.

The church (St. James),<sup>3</sup> which was partially rebuilt in 1777, consisted of a single nave with a south porch, and a western doorway with the bell-gable above, and retained "the blew polished stone set upon a wooden frame" which had served as an altar in the older church. It was again restored in 1862, under the directions of Mr. Lloyd Williams, and much repaired in 1869.

In the churchyard lie buried William Owen Pughe, D.C.L., F.R.S., the great Welsh lexicographer and antiquary, ob. 1835; Aneurin Owen, his distinguished son, the editor of *Ancient Laws and Institutes of Wales*, ob. 1851 ; and Robert Davies, the parish clerk, best known as "Bardd Nantglyn," and the author of a Grammar in Welsh, his native tongue, ob. 1835.

The National School was built in 1859, at a cost of about £500. Previously the gallery in the church had supplied its place.

The charities embrace :

*Gwaun y pyllau clai* (a cottage, two gardens, and about three roods of pasture land, with an extensive right of commonage), purchased in 1745 with £18 10s. charity money.

*Building belonging to the poor* (three dwellings, a garden, one rood of land, and common right), said to have been purchased with charity money about 1795.

<sup>1</sup> "Ecclesiam de Nanclyn nostrorum patronatus et diocesis Ecclesiæ Cathedrali unimus et annexamus ad sustentationem dictorum decem vicariorum ac aliorum onerum dictæ ecclesiæ supportandorum, salvo jure episcopali in omnibus, reservata competenti vicaria in eadem cum vacaverit.....Statuimus etiam et ordinamus quod per prædictos decem vicarios vicissim due Misse, una videlicet de Beata Virgine Maria, et alia pro defunctis et benefactoribus ejusdem loci in nova Capella ex parte australi constructa, cotidie, celebrentur." (B. Willis, ii, 85.)

<sup>2</sup> "Rev. Pater Ep'us Assav'. R' annexa mensæ Ep'i." (Z.)

<sup>3</sup> An earlier church was founded here by Mordeyrn, whose festival was held on July 25th, and the ruins of which were to be seen in 1698, "near the church." (Br. Willis.) The actual spot is a quarter of a mile from the church, on a part of Clasmor farm, the property of Mr. Owen of Tanygyrt.

Rent-charge of 6s. on *Caer Erol*, by John Myddelton.

„ „ £1 on *Foel*, in Llanefydd, by Evan Hughes, ob. 1728.

„ „ 2s. 6d. on *Tanyffordd*, being interest of money borrowed.

Interest of £60, accumulated charities, in the Denbigh Savings' Bank.

„ „ £40 from Mrs. Owen, Tan y Gyrt.

## VICARS.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1537.—THOMAS, John                     | 1723.—WILLIAMS, Gabriel                   |
| 1556.—NANCLYN, John                    | 1738.—OWENS, Owen                         |
| 1570.—HUGH AP ROBERT <sup>1</sup>      | 1743.—SAMUEL, William                     |
| 1581.—ROBERTS, Peter <sup>2</sup>      | 1765.—WILLIAMS, Edward <sup>5</sup>       |
| 1583.—EVANS, William                   | 1770.—WILLIAMS, Evan <sup>6</sup>         |
| 1589.—MEREDITH, David                  | 1776.—CREWE, Edward                       |
| 1621.—THELWALL, Simon                  | 1778.—WHITLEY, Peter <sup>7</sup>         |
| 1625.—JONES, Edward, A.M. <sup>3</sup> | 1788.—PUGH, Rice <sup>8</sup>             |
| 1635.—GRIFFITH, Rice, A.M.             | 1807.—CLOUGH, Thomas <sup>9</sup>         |
| 1639.—MORGAN, William                  | 1814.—WILLIAMS, Watkin                    |
| 1642.—LLOYD, Edward, M.A.              | 1823.—HOWARD, Richard, D.D. <sup>10</sup> |
| 1644.—ROBERTS, Thomas                  | 1826.—ROBERTS, Edward                     |
| 1670.—ROBERTS, J. <sup>4</sup>         | 1857.—EDWARDS, E. W., M.A. <sup>11</sup>  |
| 1697.—Wynne, J.                        | 1863.—JONES, Edward, M.A. <sup>12</sup>   |
| 1706.—MYDDELTON, Roger                 | 1868.—WILLIAMS, Thomas <sup>13</sup>      |
- 1871.—LEWIS, Lewis Thomas, B.D., Lampeter; Deac., 1846; Pr., 1847; Curate of Aberystroth, 1846-9; Selattyn, 1849-51; Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog, 1851-60; Llanbedr, 1860-71.

<sup>1</sup> R. Llanuwchllyn, 1553; sinecure R. Llanfor, and R. Bettws Gweryl Goch, 1556.

<sup>2</sup> V. Gwyddelwern, 1594.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanmerewig, 1635. Edited "Cydymmaith yr Eglwyswr yn ymweled a'r Claf." (*Llyf y Cymry*, 263.)

<sup>4</sup> V. choral, 1662.

<sup>5</sup> V. choral, 1759; V. Llansantffraid yn Mechain, 1770; Canon, 1777.

<sup>6</sup> V. choral, 1763; V. Llanasa, 1775. <sup>7</sup> V. choral, 1776; V. Cwm, 1788.

<sup>8</sup> R. Gwaunysgor, 1760; R. Llysfaen, 1762; R. Llandulas, 1780.

<sup>9</sup> V. Llangernyw, 1783; R. Halkin, 1783; Canon, 1794; R. Hirnant, 1796; R. Denbigh, 1797.

<sup>10</sup> R. Denbigh, 1818; V. Llanrhaiadr D. C., 1843.

<sup>11</sup> V. Rhuabon, 1862.

<sup>12</sup> V. Llanfair Caereinion, 1868.

<sup>13</sup> V. Llandrillo yn Edeirnion, 1871.

## THE DEANERY OF DYFFRYN CLWYD.

IN the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas, A.D. 1291, this deanery is returned in the diocese of Bangor, and taxed under the two archdeacons of Merioneth and Bangor respectively. Thus:

a. "In archidiaconat' de Meryonyd'. Hæc est taxatio decanatus de Dyffryn Cloyt per offic' et dec' et alios bonos juratos:

	Taxatio.				Decima.		
	£	s	d	...	£	s	d
"Benefic' offic' - - - -	5	6	8	...	0	10	8
Beneficiu' decani - - - -	6	13	4	...	0	13	4
Rectoria eccl'ia de Lant'nank - -	5	0	0	...	0	10	0
Eccl'ia de Lankynaval - - - -	4	6	8	...	0	8	8
Eccl'ia S'ei Petri - - - -	5	6	8	...	0	10	8
Porcio Hugonis in eccl'ia de Lanveyr -	6	13	4	...	0	13	4
„ Guydonis in eadem - - - -	4	13	4	...	0	9	4
„ David, capellani in eccl'ia de Lanevys	4	6	8	...	0	8	8
Eccl'ia de Lan Tudvo - - - -	4	6	8	...	0	8	8

"Summa £46 : 13 : 4

Inde decima £4 : 13 : 4

β. "In archidiaconat' de Bangore et decanat' de Dyffren Cloyt :

"Llanynys - - - -	16	0	0	...	1	12	0
Clanvayr - - - -	16	0	0	...	1	12	0
Llanelydan - - - -	8	0	0	...	0	16	0
Llandyrnok - - - -	4	6	8	...	0	8	8
Llanrud - - - -	5	0	0	...	0	10	0
Llanganhavall - - - -	4	6	8	...	0	8	8
Llanmurrok - - - -	4	0	10	...	0	8	1
Derwen - - - -	4	0	10	...	0	8	1
Llanpetya - - - -	4	0	10	...	0	8	1
Canonia decani - - - -	12	0	0	...	1	4	0
„ archid' Bang' - - - -	12	13	4	...	1	5	4
„ Loryngh' - - - -	6	13	4	...	0	13	4
„ Henri le Mestre - - - -	5	6	8	...	0	10	8
„ nup' Joh'is ap Gruffuth - -	5	6	8	...	0	10	8
„ Ith' ap Robert - - - -	8	0	0	...	0	14	0
„ Jeu'n ap D'd - - - -	6	13	4	...	0	13	4"

In the *Valor Eccles.*, Henry VIII, the returns are combined under the one "Decanatus de Dyffryn Cloyd et Kemerel"; and so it continued



until an Order in Council, Sept. 1859, transferred the deaneries of Dyffryn Clwyd and Kemerch from the diocese of Bangor to that of St. Asaph, in exchange for that of Cyfeiliog.

Newcome states that "this rural deanery was not to that day (1825) included in any of the archdeaconries of the diocese, but was quite independent of any jurisdiction save that of the diocesan; and that the reason was this, viz., that it was originally superintended by an ecclesiastical dignitary under the Bishop, called the Dean; being the same as Archdeacon, having his official under him."<sup>1</sup> In 1291, however, we have seen that it was included under two archdeaconries by a division due probably to some early arrangement of the Cwmwds of Cynmeirch, Llanerch, Coleigion, and Dogveilyn, in the respective Cantreds of Ystrad and Dyffryn Clwyd. Owing to the isolation of this deanery, and its remoteness from the rest of their districts, the Archdeacons had probably deputed their jurisdiction, not to the Dean, who had jurisdiction only over his own chapter, but to the Official, an officer whom we meet with acting a prominent part in the great controversy between the Bishop of St. Asaph and the Abbot of Valle Crucis in 1274.<sup>2</sup> As the two parts of the deanery became afterwards united, and the archdeaconry of Bangor was taken into *commendam* by the Bishop, the official, whether of the Bishop *per se*, or as Archdeacon, would still be the presiding authority; and hence the apparent independence of archidiaconal jurisdiction. It now forms part of the archdeaconry of St. Asaph.

The following parishes are included in this deanery, viz., Clocaenog, Derwen, Efenechtyd, Llanbedr, Llandyrnog, Llanelidan, Llanfair, Llanfwrog, Llangwyfan, Llangynhafal, Llanrhaiadr and Prion, Llanychan, Llanyynys with Gyffylliog, and Ruthin with Llanrhudd.

### CLOCAENOG.<sup>3</sup>

THE two townships of Clocaenog ucha and Clocaenog isa, into which the parish is divided, are from seven to eight miles in length by about two and a half in breadth; embracing an area of about 6,337 acres, of which about 4,959 are under cultivation; and of the rateable value of £2,826; with a population of 477. In 1829 nearly half the parish was unenclosed; but since that time the Enclosure Commissioners

<sup>1</sup> *Memoirs of Dean and Bishop Goodman*, p. 39.

<sup>2</sup> "Mandatum abbatis de Talellechau directum officiali de Dyffryn Clwyd pro citando Ep'o Assaphen et vicario de Llangollen &c. ad respondend' abbati et conventui de Valle Crucis asserenti quod eccl'ia de Llangollen cum suis capellis," &c. See *suprà*, p. 43.

<sup>3</sup> Probably *Clawdd* (the earthwork) of *Caenog*, whose name appears also in the Farm of *Caenog*, and in *Esgyn Gaenog* in Gwyddelwern, which formerly belonged to the monks of Ystrad Marchell. A more recent earthwork, *Clawdd Newydd*, lies between Clocaenog and Derwen.

have sold and allotted several hundred acres, now enclosed, but tithe free, although stated to be subject to tithes.<sup>1</sup>

The living is a rectory, in the patronage of the Bishop of Llandaff and the jurisdiction of the Bishop of St. Asaph, having been transferred, with the rest of the deanery, from the diocese of Bangor. Its value, according to the tithe-rent commutation, is £342 14s., in addition to which there is a house and three acres and a half of glebe. No mention of it is made in the *Taxatio* of 1291, but in the *Valor Eccles.* of 1535 it is returned as worth £12; dec. inde, £1 4s.

The church was founded, according to some authorities, by Trillo; according to others, by Foddhyd; and to others, by Caenog; and had its wake or vigil on August 27th. It consists of nave and chancel, divided internally by a handsome rood-screen ornamented with open screen-work and running bands of a wheat-ear and vine-leaf pattern,—allusive to the sacramental elements. The principal entrance is through a south porch; but there is also a doorway on the north side. The roof is of open timber-work; the font octagonal, and plain; the pulpit bears the date 1695. The east window, a Perpendicular of five lights, contains some fragments of stained glass, which appears from the following entry in the oldest Register to have been first set up in 1538: “Upon the east window of Clocaenoc Church this inscription is left, though somewhat defaced, ‘Jesu Christ of might is most, Have marce on them that made this cost, a'o D'ni mccccxxviii.’” There is also a Decorated window of two lights on the north side; and on the south a memorial window (by Holland of Warwick) has recently been put up to Mary, wife of T. Hughes, M.A., rector, ob. 1865. The subjects are, the Crucifixion in the centre, St. John and the Virgin in the side-lights. The oldest monument is one to Evan Lloyd ap Rice of Derwen Hall, A.D. 1597. The church was carefully restored in 1856-57, at a cost of £400, under the direction of Mr. Kennedy of Bangor.

The School was built by subscription about the year 1820.

The charities in 1837 amounted to £51 per ann., derived as follows:

£12 from Llidiart-fawr-lydan, in Llangynhafal, left in 1669 by GRIFFITH THOMAS AB EVAN, in certain proportions between the parishes of Llanfwrog, Llangynhafal, Efenechtyd, and Clocaenog.

£25 from Graigwen (about 24 acres) in Llannerch-gron, left by HUGH THOMAS in 1680.

£14 from Ffridd-agored in Llanfwrog parish, bought in 1721 for £65, which appears to have been charity money in hand.<sup>2</sup>

These rents have been a little augmented of late years, so that their total amount is now about £57 per ann.; and they are distributed by the rector, churchwardens, and overseers.

<sup>1</sup> The quantity subject to tithes is, according to the schedule of the apportionment map, 6,134 acres, 3,167 being at that time common land.

<sup>2</sup> Bequests made in 1633 and 1687, as appears from a memorandum in the Register, dated July 27, 1687.

The following have been lost : £10 by Rev. Mr. Price of Derwen, 1717 ; £5 by Andrew Jones of Llanycil, in 1725 ; £10 by Rev. Robt. Jones, of Llanycil, in 1744 ; and £12 by Mrs. Catherine Owen in 1776.

## RECTORS.

1561.—JOHNS, Geoffrey	1794.—ROBERTS, Thomas, M.A. <sup>4</sup>
1672.—JONES, Thomas	1796.—WILLIAMS, Hugh, M.A. <sup>5</sup>
1705.—SALUSBURY, Robt., LL.D. <sup>1</sup>	1807.—REYNOLDS, Owen <sup>6</sup>
1714.—WILLIAMS, John, A.M. <sup>2</sup>	1829.—NEWCOME, Richard, M.A. <sup>7</sup>
1763.—SUTTON, William <sup>3</sup>	1834.—PARRY, John, M.A.

1846.—HUGHES, Thomas, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford ; B.A., 1825 ; Deacon, 1826 ; Pr., 1827 ; curate of Llanbedr, 1826-34 ; Ruthin, 1834-40 ; Llandyrnog, 1840-6 ; Lecturer of St. Peter's, Ruthin, 1830-40. Author of *Communion Tracts* for his parishioners. Editor of *Poems in English and Latin*, by Rev. D. Hughes, with additions<sup>8</sup> by the Editor.

DERWEN.<sup>9</sup>

THIS parish consists of two townships, Dyfanedd and Ysgeifog, having a cultivated area of 4,248 acres ; rated at £2,734 ; and a population of 580.

According to the *Taxatio* of 1291, "Derwen taxatur £4 : 0 : 10 ; dec. 8s. 1d." And according to the *Valor* of 1535, "rectoria de Derwen yn lâl valet clare £10 15s. ; dec. inde regi, £1 : 1 : 6." The Commutation has assigned £341 to the rector, and £8 to the parish clerk. There is also an old glebe house (date not known) and 14 a. 3 r. 35 p. of land. The patronage, formerly belonging to the see of Bangor, has been transferred by the late Act to the Bishop of St. David's.

The church (St. Mary's), though small, contains some features of great interest. It is divided into nave and chancel by a handsome screen and rood-loft,—a work of the fifteenth century, showing much

<sup>1</sup> Vic. Llanrwst, 1709 ; Canon of Bangor, 1710.

<sup>2</sup> Head Master of Ruthin School.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llanynys, 1759-63 ; R. Llanychan, 1789-94.

<sup>4</sup> Head Master of Ruthin School ; chaplain to Archbishop Moore.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llanellidan, 1786 ; V. Conway, 1786 ; chaplain to Bishop Bagot, Canon of St. Asaph, and vicar of Corwen, 1792-7 ; rector of Halkin, 1797.

<sup>6</sup> V. Conway, 1802 ; R. Aber, 1819.

<sup>7</sup> Warden of Ruthin and rector of Llanfwrog, 1804 ; Canon of Bangor, 1821 ; Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1834 ; V. Llanrhaiadr, 1851.

<sup>8</sup> See p. 290, a description of the parish.

<sup>9</sup> "The oak." Sometimes with the addition of "*Anial*" (the barren, desolate), in reference to its wild, mountainous character. Sometimes of "*Yn Iâl*," in allusion to a neighbouring commote, to which it probably once belonged.



variety of design and excellence of execution. The stairs to the rood-loft were removed from their original position in the nave to a new recess in the north wall when the church was restored in 1857.<sup>1</sup> The old piscina is preserved, though much pared down, in the wall of the south porch. The earliest window is a double lancet in the north wall; that of the chancel is a Perpendicular of five lights. A Decorated window of three lights, on the south side, has been erected by the Rev. R. J. Roberts (Ysceifiog) as a memorial to his parents. Our Lord forms the central figure, and the glass is by Ballantine. Another window, on the same side, has been set up by Mr. Wynne of Bachymbyd and Meyarth, for the like purpose. The subjects are, the Nativity, Resurrection, and Ascension, with typical medallions underneath representing the birth of Moses, the restoration of the Shunamite woman's son, and the ascent of Elijah. The glass by Powell of Whitefriars.

The churchyard cross, now much weather-worn, has on its four faces canopied niches with subjects carved in relief, to represent respectively the Crucifixion of our Lord, and Justice, Mercy, and Faith. The work belongs apparently to the twelfth or thirteenth century.

A new National Schoolroom has just been erected at a cost of £500, on a site valued at £100, given, together with a donation of £70, by Jesus College, Oxford.<sup>2</sup> A class-room and master's house are about to be built. Estimated cost, £250.

The charities consist of

1. Cottage and land, called Sarnedd Gwynn, bought in 1774 with £82 19s. of parish benefactions. Annual value, £6 10s.

2. Rent-charge of £6 on Ty Cerrig, given by Mr. Godfrey Roberts of Richmond in 1828. Confined to Church communicants, never having been in receipt of parish relief.

Lost, being void by the Statute of Mortmain, the messuage and lands called Ty-yn-y-nant, left by Edward Evans, in 1757, jointly between the poor of this parish and Llanbedr.

At Cefn Fynydd there appears to have been formerly a *capella* with right of sanctuary. A witness living in 1863 remembered the ruins of the church having been pointed out to him by his father, the walls at that time being two or three feet above the ground. A spot near the corner of the present plantation of Cefn Mawr had at the same time been pointed out as a sanctuary for criminals charged with lesser offences, who were free from arrest so long as they remained within its limits.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This was done under the direction of Mr. Kennedy, at a cost of about £750. A deficiency of £67 10s. was met by three equal donations of £22 10s. each from Mr. Wagstaff of Rhug, Mr. Elkington of Pool Park, and Mr. Blezard of Garthmeilio.

<sup>2</sup> The Privy Council grant was £166 : 12 : 6. The other subscriptions embraced St. Asaph D. B. E. and Carey Fund, each £40; Nat. Soc., £30; Bishop of St. Asaph, £30; H. Ainsworth, Esq., £25, etc.

<sup>3</sup> *Arch. Camb.* for 1864, p. 75.



## RECTORS.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1561.—ROBINSON, George                      | 1781.—JONES, Peter, M.A.                    |
| —— DAVIES, Hugh <sup>1</sup>                | 1809.—COTTON, James H., B.C.L. <sup>5</sup> |
| 1632.—JONES, John, <sup>2</sup> A.M. Oxford | 1810.—KYFFIN, John, M.A.                    |
| 1672.—LANGFORD, John <sup>3</sup>           | 1816.—MAJENDIE, H. W., M.A. <sup>6</sup>    |
| 1718.—CONWAY, John, A.M.                    | 1817.—JONES, Thomas                         |
| 1744.—HUGHES, Hugh, A.M.                    | 1819.—JONES, Robert <sup>7</sup>            |
| 1746.—FFOULKES, Robert, A.B.                | 1844.—DAVIES, John <sup>8</sup>             |
| 1769.—JONES, Watkin <sup>4</sup>            | 1852.—PRICE, William, M.A. <sup>9</sup>     |

1859.—DAVIES, John Clement, B.A. Trin. Coll. Camb.; Deac., 1836; Pr., 1837; curate of Barmouth, 1837; Dolgellau, 1841; Carnarvon, 1844; R. Llanfair juxta Harlech, 1846-59.

## EFENECHTYD.

A SMALL parish of 1,218 acres, contained in the two townships of Uwch-y-llan and Is-y-llan, of the rateable value of £1,271, with a population of 211.

The name, "Y Fynechdyd," implies that there was at one time a *Nunnery* here; and as there is a tradition to the same effect, I think

<sup>1</sup> Buried in 1632. The Registers date from this year.

<sup>2</sup> All through the Commonwealth, during which the Registers are complete.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanelidan, 1684. The following elegiacs from his pen, copied from an early Register, cast an unpleasant light upon the morals of his parishioners:

"Baptizatorum tibi nomina singula signo  
Atque ita defunctos ordine quosque loco,  
Sed junctos memoro sociali federe paucos,  
Transiliit metas luxuriosa cohors."

<sup>4</sup> At this time Mr. David Elis was curate of Derwen, and translated into Welsh Bishop Wilson's "Knowledge and Practice of the Christian Religion" (*Gwybodaeth ac Ymarfer o'r Grefydd Grist-nogol*), Merrick's "Manual of Prayers" (*Llawlyfr o Weddian ar achosion Cyffredin*), and Mr. W. Smith's "History of our Lord" (*Histori yr Jesu Sanctaidd*).

<sup>5</sup> V. Bangor, 1810; R. Llanllechid, 1822; Dean of Bangor, 1838. Author of Sermons, Pamphlets, Tracts, and Addresses. He preached the sermon on the reopening of the church in 1857.

<sup>6</sup> Trin. Coll. Camb., son of Bishop Majendie. V. Llanrhaiadr, 1817; Preb. of Penmynydd, 1818; Vic. Speen, Oxford, 1819; Preb. of Beaminster Prima in Salisbury Cathedral, 1824. Presented the altar-table to the church.

<sup>7</sup> R. Llanelidan, 1808-19.

<sup>8</sup> R. Llanychan, 1831-44.

<sup>9</sup> R. Llangelynnin juxta Conway.

we may safely identify herewith the Gwytheriac Nunnery mentioned in the "Compositio" between Reginald de Grey, the re-founder of the collegiate church at Ruthin, and the Bishop of Bangor.<sup>1</sup> This nunnery has been supposed by Tanner, and others after him, to be identical with Gwytherin; but *Gwytherin* is neither in the lordship of Ruthin, nor in the jurisdiction of the see of Bangor; both of which conditions are fully answered in the present case.

No notice of either the parish or the Nunnery occurs in the *Taxatio*, but in the *Valor* of 1535 "rectoria de Yfynechdid valet clare £6:1:4; inde dec. regi, 12s. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d." The commuted value of the tithes is £202, payable to the rector, who has in addition a good house and 10a. 2r. 3p. of glebe.<sup>2</sup> Patron, the Bishop of St. Asaph.

The church (St. Michael's) is small and rude, and consists of a single nave with a western gallery; at the back of which, and facing the wall, has been placed a portion of the screen that once divided the nave from the chancel; done probably during the alterations recorded on the cornice of the latter, A.D. 1714. The old font is very curious, probably unique, being hewn out of a solid block of oak; and the old fashioned knocker on the door is supposed to be in illustration of the parable of the ten virgins (St. Matt. xxv, 11),—an allusion which would possess a special appropriateness for a nunnery church. Two rectors, who afterwards became bishops, succeeded each other here, Robert Morgan and William Lloyd. The latter presented the Communion plate.<sup>3</sup>

The charities embrace:

£1 per ann. charged by GRIFFITH THOMAS AB EVAN, in 1669, on Llidiart-fawr-lydan, in Llangynhafal. (*Vide Clocaenog*.)

Interest of £10 left by Rev. J. PRICE, a former rector, in 1723.

„ £10 „ ROBERT PRICE, of Plas Efenechtyd, in 1764.

„ £15 „ WILLIAM JONES in 1782.

The three last are invested in the Ruthin Savings' Bank, and the whole distributed on St. Thomas' Day.

<sup>1</sup> The most material feature in this "Compositio" is that the Bishop stipulates not to ordain any of Lord Grey's vassals without his permission, as that act would emancipate them; and to have the liberty of enjoying, without molestation, the goods of deceased nuns; the administration of the temporal goods of the ladies of *Gwytheriac Nunnery* being, as it appears, a bone of contention between the temporal and spiritual lords. (*Goodman Memoirs*, p. 40.)

<sup>2</sup> A small quillet in the midst of other land has been lost because its extent was not named in any of the terriers, and there were no means of proving its size.

<sup>3</sup> In the churchyard is preserved a large round stone which it used to be one of the feats of strength and skill to throw over the head backwards at the *campau* (games) held here formerly on the *gwyilmabsant*, or wake.

## RECTORS.

1561.—EDWARD, John	1749.—ANWYL, Owen
1638.—MORGAN, Robert, S.T.B. <sup>1</sup>	1752.—WILLIAMS, Edward <sup>6</sup>
——— LLOYD, William, M.A. <sup>2</sup>	1778.—PIERCE, John
1663.—LANGFORD, John <sup>3</sup>	1789.—WALTERS, John, M.A. <sup>7</sup>
1690.—JONES, Edward	1789.—ROBERTS, Thomas, M.A. <sup>8</sup>
1693.—MORGAN, David	1790.—HUGHES, David, <sup>9</sup> M.A.
1698.—WYNNE, John, M.A. <sup>4</sup>	1799.—JONES, John, M.A. <sup>10</sup>
1706.—PRICE, John	1818.—THELWALL, Edw., M.A. <sup>11</sup>
1723.—LLOYD, Edward <sup>5</sup>	1834.—OWEN, Francis, M.A. <sup>12</sup>
1731.—OWEN, Jenkin	

1865.—EVANS, John Pughe, St. Bees; Deac., 1856; Pr., 1857; Curate successively of Rhyl, Llandderfel, Cwm, Bettws, Caedewen, and Llandebla.

## LLANBEDR.

THE four townships of this parish are Llwynedd, Treganol, Trerhiwiau, and Trebodelgar; embracing a total area of 2,900 acres, the cultivated portion of which is 1,700 acres; and the rateable value, £3,258. Population, 444.

“Llanpêtya” occurs in the *Taxatio* of 1291 as worth £4:0:10; dec. 8s. 1d.; and in the *Valor* of 1535, “rectoria de Llan Bedir valet clare, £13:1:8; dec., £1:6:2.” The commuted value is given as £418; in addition to which there is a rectory house and eleven acres and a half of glebe. Patron, the Bishop of St. Asaph.

<sup>1</sup> Born at Fronfraith, in Llandyssil, Montgomeryshire; educated at Jesus College, Cambridge, and became successively chaplain to Bishops Dolben and Roberts of Bangor; Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1660; Bishop of Bangor, 1666.

<sup>2</sup> Son of Edward Lloyd, rector of Llangower, 1645; educated at St. John's Coll., Camb.; became chaplain to Charles II; consecrated Bishop of Llandaff, 1675; translated to Peterborough, 1679; and thence, in 1685, to Norwich, of which he was deprived, as a Non-juror, in 1691.

<sup>3</sup> R. Derwen, 1672; R. Llanelidan, 1684.

<sup>4</sup> Fellow of Magdalen Coll., Camb.; Head Master of Ruthin School.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llanychan.

<sup>6</sup> Canon, 1777; V. Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, 1778; chaplain to Bishops Newcome and Shipley.

<sup>7</sup> Fellow of Jesus Coll., Oxford; Head Master of Ruthin School, 1785.

<sup>8</sup> Head Master of Ruthin School, and chaplain to Archbishop Moore; R. Llangwyfan, 1790; R. Clocaenog, 1794.

<sup>9</sup> Head Master of Ruthin School, 1796-1809; R. Llangynhafal, 1814.

<sup>10</sup> R. Llangynhafal, 1817.

<sup>11</sup> R. Llanbedr, 1834.

<sup>12</sup> Ch. Ch., Oxford; Second Master of Ruthin School, 1809.



The old parish church (St. Peter's) stands about a hundred yards from the Hall ; but is no longer used, and is fast falling into decay. It is a small, single body with a south porch, and a vestry lately built on the north side. The east window is a recent insertion, of Perpendicular form, but there is one on the south side of somewhat earlier character. The font is octagonal, with foliated panels. The body of the church is filled with pews, and the roof ceiled in plaster.

The new parish church, which is also dedicated to St. Peter, "was erected to be free and unappropriated for ever, and with the churchyard presented to the parish by John Jesse, F.R.S.; and the chancel-windows were inserted by the parishioners and friends as an acknowledgment of his munificent gift, A.D. 1863."<sup>1</sup> The plan consists of a chancel having an apsidal termination, with organ-chamber and vestry on the north side, and a nave with south porch, and adjoining it a tower surmounted by a spirette. The style is peculiar ; being, in fact, a composition of two or three styles not ineffectively combined. Externally the walls are built of grey limestone, with bands of the local blue stone ; and the roof covered with alternate bands of purple and green slate surmounted with crest-tiles, the chancel portion being of ornamental iron. The porch is faced on each side with a marble pillar having a carved freestone capital, and the broach of the tower and spire is composed of open columns of a similar character. Internally, the chancel is divided from the nave by a low stone screen, from which springs the chancel-arch, and is furnished with stalls for the choir ; the organ occupying the north chamber. Dorsal hangings cover the east wall. The roof is divided into panels, and that of the sacrarium vaulted. The windows, five in number, of single lights, foliated, with geometrical openings above, are filled with commemorative glass, as stated above, and represent respectively our Lord, St. John the Evangelist, St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. James. In the nave, the west window, of three lights, has for its central subject the Presentation in the Temple, with the miracle of healing the blind man ; and in the side-lights, medallions of the Birth, the miracle at Cana, the Baptism, the finding in the Temple, the raising of Lazarus, and the Last Supper ; the head-tracery being occupied by the Ascension. The roof of the nave is open and plain ; the seats open, and the windows alternately of single and double lights. The font (octagonal) has its panels ornamented with shields and the monogram. The flooring throughout is of Maw's encaustic tiles.

Among the chief monuments are those (1), to Ursula Lloyd of Berth, died 1795,—a female figure clinging to a cross ; (2), to Edward Lloyd of Berth and Rhaggat, ob. 1859,—a medallion portrait by J. Gibson, R.A. ; (3), to Joseph Ablett of Llanbedr Hall, ob. 1848,—an eulogy, not undeserved, indeed, but too much after the style of the seventeenth century ; (4), to Archdeacon Jones, fifteen years rector of the parish, ob. 1835 ; and another to William Greene, rector, ob. 1782.

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<sup>1</sup> From a tablet over the vestry door.



There are also in the churchyard two chaste monumental crosses, to Henry Tayleur, ob. 1866; and F. A. Jesse, ob. 1865.

The charities include :

Rent-charge of £20 upon the Llanbedr Hall estate, by Simon Thelwall of Gray's Inn, in 1670, for an afternoon sermon.

Ditto, £5 4s., by the same, for white bread.

One third rental of tenement and lands, bought for £110, and bequeathed by the Rev. Hugh Pugh, in 1681, jointly between the poor of this parish, Llanfwrog, and Christ's Hospital in Ruthin.

Interest of £100, Consolidated Charities, invested in the Ruthin and Denbigh Turnpike Trust.

Ditto of £24 by Rev. W. Greene, in 1777, for clothing.

The bequest of Ty-yn-y-nant, in Derwen parish, by Edward Evans in 1757, jointly between this parish and Derwen (*q. v.*), is believed to have been rendered void by the Statute of Mortmain.

#### RECTORS.

1561.—HUGHES, John, LL.B. <sup>1</sup>	1734.—GREENE, William
164.—OLIVER, Maurice <sup>2</sup>	1782.—OWEN, Lewis
1668.—PUGH, Hugh, D.D. <sup>3</sup>	1807.—MAURICE, Robert, A.B. <sup>6</sup>
1683.—FFOULKES, Robert, D.D. <sup>4</sup>	1819.—JONES, John, M.A. <sup>7</sup>
1729.—WYNNE, Hugh, LL.D. <sup>5</sup>	1834.—THELWALL, Edward, M.A. <sup>8</sup>

1870.—HUGHES, Thomas Jones, M.A., Trin. Coll. Camb.; Scholar, Wrangler, B.A., 1844; Deac. and Pr., 1846; V. Llanasa, 1860-70. Author of a Prize *Essay on the Laws and Principles of English and Welsh Syntax*, Aberffraw Eisteddfod, 1849.

#### LLANDYRNOG.

THIS parish comprises the six townships of Rhiwbebyll, Llan, Speddyd, Corfedwen or Caerfedwen, Ystrad, and Baner, with an area of 3,223a. 1r. 37 p.; rated at £5,156, and a population of 493.

In the *Taxatio* of 1291 we have in one place “rectoria eccl'ia de Lant'nank, £5; dec., 10s.” In another, “*Llandurnok*, £4:6:8; dec., 8s. 8d.” In the *Valor* of 1535, “rectoria de Llandyrnoc valet clare, £9:19:6; decima inde, £1:18:11 $\frac{1}{4}$ .” Rector Roberts, who was

<sup>1</sup> R. Llangynhafal, Canon and Prebendary of Bangor.

<sup>2</sup> Deprived during the Commonwealth. Weaver's *Poems*.

<sup>3</sup> Warden of Ruthin and R. Llanfwrog; Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1680.

<sup>4</sup> R. Llanfwrog, 1675; Precentor of Bangor, 1685.

<sup>5</sup> R. Dolgelley, 1729, and Archdeacon of Merioneth; V. Llanrhaiadr, 1734.

<sup>6</sup> R. Llanelidan, 1796-1807; V. Rhuddlan, 1800-19.

<sup>7</sup> Fellow of Jesus Coll., Oxford; Bampton Lecturer, 1821; Archdeacon of Merioneth.

<sup>8</sup> R. Efenechtyd, 1818. Resigned Llanbedr, 1870.

promoted to the see of Bangor in 1637, retained this *in commendam*, together with the sinecure rectory of Llanrhaiadr and the archdeaconries of Bangor and Anglesey; and from the year 1712 till the death of Bishop Bethel in 1859, it continued to be so held, and the cure filled by a curate in charge. The cure has subsequently been constituted a rectory, and the whole of the tithe rent-charge (by 6 and 7 William IV, c. 77), which had been commuted at £666, transferred to the rector; who has, moreover, an excellent house,<sup>1</sup> enlarged and greatly improved in 1860, together with new outbuildings, at a cost of about £1,700, of which £900 were raised on Queen Anne's Bounty. There are also 24 a. 1 r. 24 p. of glebe land, three of which are an allotment of mountain waste. The patronage, which formerly belonged to the see of Bangor, has recently been transferred to the Bishop of St. David's. The church was founded originally by Tynnog, a saint of the sixth century, and brother of Deifar or Diheufar and Marchell, the respective founders of Bodfari and Whitechurch. The present structure, which belongs chiefly to the fifteenth century, is divided by an arcade into two equal aisles, the easternmost bay being raised a step higher than the rest to form a chancel with its aisle. The walls are rough casted externally and battened internally, the roof ceiled, and the body of the church pewed, the pulpit and desk being against the north wall. The vestry is formed out of the old south porch, which retains much of its original character. The western door is also disused, and the present entrance is through a north porch, the massive oak door of which is of great age; behind it is the old poor-box. A western gallery was taken down a few years ago, and a raised platform erected in the south aisle for the singers; the organ by Hill and Sons was presented in 1864 by Miss Maddocks, of Glanywern. The handsome chancel window of five lights transomed and foliated, contains fragments of stained glass illustrative of the tradition that each article of the Creed was contributed by one of the Apostles; the traditional sentence being given under each figure, and the whole formed into a framework for the great central subject of the Crucifixion. The figures of St. Asaph and St. Daniel in the tracery aptly commemorate the founders of the two sister sees of Bangor and St. Asaph, in both of which it has been the lot of this parish to be situate. The east window of the south aisle has been filled with memorial glass, in 1863, to John Maddocks, ob. 1837, and Sidney Maddocks, ob. 1852. Our Lord is represented in the central light with angels bearing scrolls in the side compartments and the sacred monograms in the tracery. A three-light window on the south side represents the works of mercy in six compartments; it was erected to the memory of Charlotte Barrett, ob. 1866, etat. 86, by her niece, Margaret E. Mesham. A plain slab in the chancel commemorates Bishop Roberts with the inscription—  
 "Depositum Gulielmi Roberts ss TH D Bangoriens' Episcopi, qui obiit

<sup>1</sup> The portion of the old house in which Bishop Roberts used to live has been preserved.

12 die Augusti, anno salutis 1665; Consecrationis, 20; ætatis, 80." The oak reredos and altar chest are recent. The font was presented as a memorial to Susannah Williams, of Pentremawr, who died in 1853.

The National School was erected in 1834, for the two parishes of Llandyrnog and Llangwyfan. The cost was about £600, raised by subscriptions, and a gift of £50 from the National Society.

Consolidated Charities have been invested in the purchase of a tene-ment called "Brickkiln," in the parish of Caerwys, bought in 1749, for £86 15s.,<sup>1</sup> now let at £8 10s., which is distributed on St. Thomas' day by the Rector and Churchwardens, as also a rent charge by Mrs. JANE SALISBURY, of £1, on the Ffordd-ddwr Farm. £300 have also been given by Mrs. BARRETT and Miss MESHAM, to be applied for the benefit of the parish at the discretion of the Rector; £60 of this sum has been laid out in the erection of a new house on the Brickkiln tene-ment, thereby increasing the rent from £6 to £8 10s.

*Lost.*—A rent-charge by Mrs. JANET HILL, of 6s. per annum on her lands, probably Ffordd-ddwr. A rent-charge by RICHARD HUGHES, of 6s. p. a. on Rhiw bebyll. An apprentice fund of £100, left by HENRY POWELL, Esq., of Glanywern in 1748.

#### RECTORS.

1543.—SALUSBURY, Ffulk<sup>2</sup>

1564.—MOITHE, David<sup>3</sup>

163.—BAYLY, —

1637.—ROBERTS, William, D.D.<sup>4</sup>

1666.—JONES, Thomas, M.A.<sup>5</sup>

1683.—LLOYD, Francis, M.A.<sup>6</sup>

1712-1859.—Bishops of Bangor  
*in commendam*

<sup>1</sup> Including £40 by Foulk Parry; £20 by Thomas Powell, gent.; £5 each by Mrs. Dorothy Powell and Mrs. Margery Salusbury; and probably the bequest of David ap Bleiddyn in 1622, recorded on an old tombstone in the chancel. £5 bequeathed by Richard Evans was laid out in the repairs of Brickkiln ucha in 1816.

<sup>2</sup> Dean of St. Asaph, S. R. Llanrhaiadr.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanfair-pwll-gwyngill, 1543; Canon of Bangor, 1560.

<sup>4</sup> Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford; Sub Dean of Wells, 1629; sinecure R. Llanrhaiadr; Bishop of Bangor, 1637.

<sup>5</sup> Puritan rector of Castle Caereinion, 1655; ejected thence at the Restoration; chaplain to the Lord President of the Marches, 1661; naval chaplain to James Duke of York, 1663; R. Llandyrnog, 1666. Fined £300 for slander against Bishop Morley, 1670, and the living sequestered. The money applied to the repair of Bangor Cathedral and other pious uses. Finally condemned "ab officio et beneficio" in consequence of a controversy with his Bishop. He wrote *Vita Edwardi Simsoni, S.T.D., ex ipsius Autographo*, prefixed to Simson's *Chronicon Catholicum*, 1652; *Of the Heart and its Right Sovereign*, and *Rome no Mother-Church to England*, 1678; *Elymas the Sorcerer, or a Memorial towards the Discovery of the Popish Plot*, 1682.

<sup>6</sup> Oriel College, Oxford; Prebendary of Llanfair in Bangor Cathedral, and Archdeacon of Merioneth.



## CURATES IN CHARGE.

1719.—ROBERTS, Maurice	1810.—JONES, Robert <sup>6</sup> .
1730.—GREEN, William <sup>1</sup>	1819.—DAVIES, John, B.A. <sup>7</sup>
1734.—JONES, Thomas	1831.—DAVIES, Richard <sup>8</sup>
1738.—VAUGHAN, Thomas <sup>2</sup>	—— WILLIAMS, Evan G.
1754.—RICHARDS, David, B.A. <sup>3</sup>	1840.—HUGHES, Thomas, M.A. <sup>9</sup>
1767.—JONES, Peter, B.A. <sup>4</sup>	1846.—JONES, James, M.A. <sup>10</sup>
1781.—CLOUGH, Thomas, M.A. <sup>5</sup>	1851.—JONES, John Owen, B.A. <sup>11</sup>
1796.—JONES, Robert	1857.—MASON, R. Williams, M.A. <sup>12</sup>

1859.—ROBERTS, David, M.A., Jesus Coll., Oxford, 3rd class Litt. Hum.; B.A., 1837; Deac., 1838; Pr., 1839; C. St. Martin's, 1839; P. C. Rhosymedre, 1842; P. C. Llangedwin, 1843; R. Caerwys, 1852.

## LLANELIDAN.

The five townships of this parish, Nantelwyd, Llan,<sup>13</sup> Bryncyme, Bodlowydd, and Garthneuoedd, embrace an area, according to the tithe apportionment, of 4,900 acres, but, according to the rate-books, of 5,109 acres, of the rateable value of £4,897, with a population of about 800.

Llanelydan is put down in the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas, A.D. 1291, at £8, decima 16s., no notice being made of the portions of which it was composed; but in the *Valor* of 1535 the comportsions are noted, as well as the name of one of the Rectors: "Rectoria de Llan Ledan, ecclesia comporcionata, valet clare xvjl., annuatim equaliter dividenda

<sup>1</sup> R. Llanbedr, 1734.

<sup>2</sup> R. Llangwyfan, 1739.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanychan, 1758.

<sup>4</sup> R. Derwen, 1781.

<sup>5</sup> R. Halkin, 1783; R. Denbigh, 1797.

<sup>11</sup> R. Llangwyfan, 1857.

<sup>12</sup> R. Llanfair, Harlech, 1859; R. Llantrisant, Anglesey, 1869.

<sup>13</sup> Piers Roberts, in his *Diary* (Tynyrhyl MSS.), has a note that, "On the road from Ruthyn to Corwen are Erw'r Benglog and Rhydyerogwr, in the township of Llanelidan. A Bishop of Bangor gave the township to one *Iorwerth ap Cadwgan* free, but the tenants to be vassals; and they disobeying, he beheaded one on the plough-bear in Erw'r Benglog, and hanged another in Rhydyerogwr, whilst a third fled for sanctuary." A deed in the Rhug MSS. at Peniarth records the purchase of Banhadlan Undiawn by the monks of Strad-Marchell from the sons of *Iorwerth ap Cadwgan* and his coheredes in Llanelidan." This may indicate the sanctuary referred to.

<sup>6</sup> R. Derwen, 1819.

<sup>7</sup> R. Llanychan, 1831; Derwen, 1844.

<sup>8</sup> R. Llanenddwyn.

<sup>9</sup> R. Clocaenog, 1846.

<sup>10</sup> R. Llanfwrog, 1851.



inter Johannem Puleston, clericum, viijl. . . viijl. ; decima inde, 32s." In the 37 Eliz., A.D. 1595, Dr. Gabriel Goodman, Dean of Westminster, obtained from the Crown the grant of one of these compositions for the support of a schoolmaster and usher in the Grammar School of Ruthin, of which he was the founder ; and in virtue of this grant all natives of this parish were entitled to be taught in it Greek and Latin free, on payment of a small entrance fee.<sup>1</sup> The present value of the tithes, according to the Commutation, is £300 to Ruthin School ; £300 to the Rector ; and £10 to the Parish Clerk. The Rector has also a house and half-an-acre of glebe. Patron : the Bishop of St. Asaph.

The Church, which is transitional from perpendicular, consists of two aisles, of which the northern is the longer and earlier one ; that on the south side being of five bays. The chancel was formerly separated from the nave by a screen and rood loft, portions of which are still preserved about the church, though the greater part is said to have been removed to Ruthin Church, and there lost as old wood-work when that church was restored. The ceiled roof of the chancel is enriched with bands of carved work of elegant design ; and the windows, some of which are Early English, contain fragments of richly coloured glass, among which may be recognised the instruments of the Crucifixion, the name of St. John and the emblem of St. Luke. The piscina is still preserved in the east wall. The church was almost entirely repewed and reflagged in 1849-50.

The School, with master's house attached, was built in 1846, by subscriptions and grants from the Committee of Council and the National Society, on a site given by Christopher Leyland, Esq., the then owner of the Nantelwyd Hall.

The Benefaction Tables in the Church contain a list of legacies amounting in all to £207,<sup>2</sup> all of which (excepting £30 then invested on turnpike trust, but now reduced to £26 6s. deposited in the Ruthin Savings Bank), together with £152, the produce of the sale of Bryn Sion, an estate in the parish belonging to the poor (of the gift of which nothing is known), and £30 of borrowed money, were laid out in 1764 in the purchase of Tyddyn Garthygroes, in the township of Bryn cyme, containing about 25a., to which an allotment of 8a. of mountain land was added about the year 1810, under the Llanellidan Enclosure Act. The whole is now let at £30, which, together with the interest of the £26 6s., is annually distributed among the poor on Good Friday and St. Thomas's Day.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The entrance-fee is now one guinea, and the annual payment five guineas, by the Ruthin Charities' Act, 1863.

<sup>2</sup> The chief benefactions were, £60 by Mary Thelwall, £30 by Mary Parry, £20 each by Grace Parry, Susannah Mostyn, Dorothy Myddleton (for four poor widows), and the Rev. W. Bulkeley.

<sup>3</sup> The sum of £58, being the produce of timber sold at Garthygroes in 1821, has long been lost. It is supposed to have been lent to Colonel Kemrick of Nantelwyd Hall, and never recovered.

## RECTORS.

1535.—PULESTON, John	1768.—GRIFFITH, Richard, M.A. <sup>4</sup>
1561. { JOHNS, Griffith	1771.—CONWAY, Robert, M.A.
{ JENNS, Thomas <sup>1</sup>	1780.—WILLIAMS, Hugh, M.A. <sup>5</sup>
1595.—PARRY, Richard, D.D. <sup>2</sup>	1796.—MAURICE, Robert, A.B. <sup>6</sup>
1684.—LANGFORD, John <sup>3</sup>	1808.—JONES, Robert, B.A. <sup>7</sup>
1716.—BULKELEY, William, A.B.	1819.—ROBERTS, Robert
1749.—LEWIS, Erasmus, A.B.	

1857.—ROBERTS, David, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Deacon, 1839; Priest, 1840; curate of St. David's, Liverpool.

## LLANFAIR.

St. Mary's, in the Deanery of Dyffryn Clwyd, is a parish of some 8,528 acres, of which about 5,000 only are subject to the payment of tithes; the rateable value is £7,912; the townships are Eyarth, Garthgynan, Derwen Llanerch, and Vaenol, and the population, 1,263. The earliest notice is that of the *Taxatio* of 1291, which returns Llanvayr as worth £16, dec. £1 12s. A hundred years later, A.D. 1387, Bishop Swaffham procured the appropriation both of this and of Llanynys, “que valorem quinquaginta librorum per annum ultra onera iisdem incumbencia non excedunt,” to the support of the four chapel-lani, whom it was then intended to appoint for the performance of Divine services in the Cathedral of Bangor, and to the repairs of the fabric thereof.<sup>8</sup> The burning of the Cathedral by Owen Glyndwr and his adherents a few years after this, and the long ruin in which it lay appears to have greatly modified the operation of this grant; for in the *Valor* of 1535, whilst no mention is made of the appropriation of Llanynys, “Rectoria et Vicaria de Llanvaire appropriantur canonie et prebendar' ecclie cathedralis de Bangor;” and their joint annual value returned at £39; three-fourths of which, £29, belonged to the Rector; and the other fourth, or £10, to the Vicar. In the Survey of Lands belonging to the Dean and other dignitaries of Bangor,<sup>9</sup> we

<sup>1</sup> Both comportioners “resident, and keep house.” (Bishop Meyrick's *Return*.)

<sup>2</sup> Dean of Bangor, 1599; *Bishop of St. Asaph*, 1604.

<sup>3</sup> R. Derwen, 1672.

<sup>4</sup> Head Master of Bangor School.

<sup>5</sup> Chaplain to Bishop Bagot; V. Conway, 1786; and Canon of St. Asaph, 1792; R. Clocaenog, 1796; R. Halkin, 1797.

<sup>6</sup> V. Rhuddlan, 1800; R. Llanbedr, 1807.

<sup>7</sup> R. Derwen, 1819.

<sup>8</sup> Pat. 10 Ric. II, p. 1, m. 43, “Pro eccl. de Llanynys et Llanvayre appropriandis pro sustentatione capellanorum et reparatione eccl. Cathedralis.” (Panner's *Notitia*.) The whole is given in full in Br. Willis' *Bangor*, App. xix.

<sup>9</sup> By Commissioners appointed by Parliament in July 1649, pursuant to the Act for abolishing deans and chapters. (B. Willis, App. xxxi.)

find "Llanfair Rectory, co. Denbigh, let in the 6th year of Edw. VI, by a long lease of 99 years, at a small rent of only £26 13s. 4d. There are two years unexpired of that lease, and then the premises will be worth (as we are informed) upon improvement over and above the present rent of £26 13s. 4d. per ann., £123 6s. 8d. There is a little house at Llanfair let for £1. Total, £151." The commuted value of the tithes was £581 6s. 8d. to the Prebendary of Llanfair (still on lease to the Rev. Henry Warren,<sup>1</sup> but subject to a payment of £50 per ann. to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners); and £290 13s. 4d. to the vicar, to which the Commissioners have added £29. The vicar has, moreover, a house and three acres of glebe. Patron, the Bishop of St. Asaph.

The church originally founded by St. Cynfarch, and on some subsequent occasion, probably that of its being rebuilt, dedicated in the name of the Virgin, follows the type of the larger churches of the vale, and consists of two equal aisles, with a battlemented tower at the west end of the northern one. The doorway into the tower and the triplet window are of the Early-English period, and deeply moulded; the east windows are perpendicular; that of the north aisle of five lights contains many fragments of stained glass, the central subject having been the Crucifixion, around which, in strange dislocation, are the headless remains of apostles and saints. The date, MCCCCLIII, may still be read upon it, and there is a tradition that the glass was at one time buried in a chest in the field at the east end of the church. Portions of a handsome screen may be seen in some of the pews, and its position is still marked by the beams in the wall and on the floor. The designs are varied and well-wrought. The "Ichthus" vine and sacred monogram are roughly carved upon the Communion Table. The piscina survives in the south wall, and on the north side of the chancel an altar tomb, bearing on a shield with a Griffin the inscription—"Hic jacet David Fili Madoc, Requiescat in pace." The roof is ceiled over, the pillars and walls covered with plaster, and a gallery occupies the west end of the south aisle. The dates 1662 over one of the south windows, and 1663 on the font tell their own record, and there is an old chest with three locks in the church, supposed to be the one in which the glass of the east window was preserved. The church, which was in a very bad condition, is now being restored under the direction of Mr. J. D. Sedding, of Bristol.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Warren has given, since the year 1845, from £60 to £70 per ann. to the parish; before the National Schools were built, to the poor; but since then, to the Schools.

<sup>2</sup> This restoration is to embrace the removal of the ceiling and renewal of the roof, rebuilding of the porch, repair of the tower, substitution of open seats for the pews, and of tiles for the flags, cleaning and scraping the pillars and arches, new mullions for the windows, and a new heating apparatus. The estimated cost is about £2,000, towards which the following subscrip-



JESUS CHAPEL, in the township of Eyarth, was founded and endowed in 1619, by Mr. Rice Williams, of Eyarth ucha, a verger in Westminster Abbey, for "a curate to read prayers and teach school in." It was originally built of wood, and consecrated in 1623, and was rebuilt of stone, and enlarged in 1787. The founder conveyed to trustees on the 29 January, 1626, a rent-charge of £6 13s. 4d. per ann. on his property in Derwen-llanerch for the curate's stipend, and added the site of the chapel, with another messuage and lands about five acres in extent, then valued at £3 6s. 8d, per an. for the reparation of the said chapel and buildings, and for bettering the said stipend, which has subsequently been augmented by grants from Queen Anne's Bounty to £1,000. The present endowment consists of

	£	s.	d.
*Jesus Chapel land . . . . .	13	0	0
*House and croft at ditto . . . . .	6	0	0
*Rent-charge on Upper Eyarth . . . . .	6	13	4
**Top Farm, Gwernymynydd . . . . .	21	0	0
**Timber yard at ditto . . . . .	6	0	0
**Bryn Cottage and land . . . . .	6	5	0
**Tyntwll, Efenechtyd . . . . .	20	0	0
Interest of £60, Queen Anne's Bounty Office . . . . .	1	19	0
	<hr/>		
	£80	17	4

Welsh service is always held in it on Sunday evenings ; but the school has now been superseded by that at Llanfair. Mr. William Davies, the author of the useful and interesting *Handbook for the Vale of Clwyd* (J. Clarke, Ruthin, 1856), was for many years schoolmaster here.

The excellent new National Schools in the village were built in 1859, at a cost of £966,<sup>1</sup> principally borne by the Rev. H. Warren, the lessee of the prebendal tithes, and the Rev. E. J. Owen, the vicar.

The charities are numerous and valuable, embracing

1. Rent-charge of £4 per ann. on lands in Eyarth township, given in 1627 by Mr. Rice WILLIAMS, the founder of Jesus Chapel, = £4.

2. A farm called Tyddyn Tlodion, in Llanarmon, purchased about 1750 with £105 of Consolidated Charities,<sup>2</sup> and containing 25a. 23 p., to which 14a. 3r. 14p. have since been added by the Llanarmon Enclosure Act. Present rental, £20.

tions have been promised : Mrs. E. J. Owen, £600 ; Rev. Basil M. Jones, £300 ; Colonel Hugh Jones, Plas Newydd, and William Chambres, Esq., each £100 ; the St. Asaph C. B. S., £100 ; Mrs. Lloyd, Rhagatt, £70.

\* Mr. Rice Williams' original endowment.

\*\* Purchased probably with the Q. A. B. grants.

<sup>1</sup> Architects, Lloyd-Williams and Underwood.

<sup>2</sup> Embracing £60 by Robert Prichard, £20 by William Parry, £10 each by Mrs. Grace Parry and Mr. William Jones, and £5 by Mr. Ambrose Thelwall.



3. Six fields in the parish, containing 13 a. 1 r. 18 p., given in 1713, by William FFOULKES, "for the relief and maintenance of the most weak, impotent, aged, sickly, indigent, and naked folks of the parish, who should be incapable of either working for their livelihood, or of walking abroad to beg their living." Rented at £20.

4. Interest of £127 : 4, Consolidated Charities, invested in the Denbigh and Wrexham Turnpike Trust, = £6 : 7.

5. Ditto of £59 : 7 : 6 (being three-fourths of the £80 : 10<sup>1</sup> invested in the Mold and Ruthin Turnpike Trust, and accepted by the vicar and churchwardens, in 1868, in discharge of the mortgage), invested in the Ruthin Savings' Bank.

6. Ditto of £112 : 10 left by Mr. William JONES of Rose Hill, Manchester, in 1866, and invested in the Funds; "to be distributed among such poor people as are regular attendants at the services of the Church," = £3 : 10.

7. Two legacies of £100 each, by Mrs. Catherine WYNNE, in 1812, and Mr. John JONES of Chester,<sup>2</sup> in 1822, were laid out in building a large room adjoining the churchyard, for holding parish meetings in; and four rooms underneath, for old and infirm people.

#### PREBENDARIES OF LLANFAIR.

1504.—VAUGHAN, Richard	1619.—ROBERTS, John, A.M. <sup>8</sup>
1508.—YALE, David, LL.B.	1626.—HILL, William, A.M. <sup>9</sup>
1520.—KNIGHT, William, LL.D. <sup>3</sup>	1660.—JONES, John, A.M. <sup>10</sup>
1535.—CAPON, William, S.T.P. <sup>4</sup>	1661.—GETHIN, John <sup>11</sup>
1550.—GWYN, J., A.B., resigned	1673.—LLOYD, Simon, A.M. <sup>12</sup>
1551.—WYNN, Griffith	1675.—LLOYD, Francis, A.M. <sup>13</sup>
1554.—GWYN, John, LL.D., <sup>5</sup> re-appointed	1713.—ELLIS, John, S.T.P. <sup>14</sup>
1574.—GWYN, Richard, A.M. <sup>6</sup>	1735.—CONANT, John, A.M.
1617.—BAYLEY, John, A.M. <sup>7</sup>	1779.—EVANS, Richard, A.M.
	1797.—WARREN, Henry, A.M. <sup>15</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Of this sum, £40 was a legacy of Mrs. Elizabeth Lloyd.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Jones also bequeathed the farm called "Cefn Côch" to the parishioners, but the bequest was void by the Mortmain Act.

<sup>3</sup> Bishop of Bath and Wells, 1541.

<sup>4</sup> Archdeacon of Anglesey, 1537.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llantrisant, S. R. Llanrhaiadr.

<sup>6</sup> Archdeacon of Bangor, 1613.

<sup>7</sup> Vicar, 1618; Precentor of Bangor Cathedral, 1621; R. Llanddyfnan and Llantrisant, Warden of Ruthin, 1621.

<sup>8</sup> R. Llangynhafal.

<sup>9</sup> R. Llanbeulan and V. Llanrhaiadr.

<sup>10</sup> R. Derwen.

<sup>11</sup> S. R. Aberdaron; R. Llanfwrog, 1665.

<sup>12</sup> Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1672; S. R. and V. Llanynys.

<sup>13</sup> R. Llandyrnog, V. Llanrhaiadr, Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1683.

<sup>14</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxon.; R. Llandurog, 1710; R. Llanbedr, near Conway.

<sup>15</sup> Obijt 1845. Prebend lapsed to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

## VICARS.

1561.—GETHIN, Lewis <sup>1</sup>	1744.—JONES, John, A.M.
1589.—JONES, David <sup>2</sup>	1746.—LLOYD, Roger, A.M.
1618.—BAYLEY, John, A.M. <sup>3</sup>	1753.—VAUGHAN, Thomas, <sup>9</sup> A.B.
1637.—MORGAN, Robert, A.M. <sup>4</sup>	1759.—HUMPHREYS, Humphrey, B.A.
1642.—LLOYD, David, D.C.L. <sup>5</sup>	1763.—LLOYD, Evan, M.A.
ROBERTS, Jonathan, <sup>6</sup> M.A.	1776.—PARRY, William, M.A. <sup>10</sup>
1675.—FFOULKES, Robert, A.M. <sup>7</sup>	1804.—OWEN, Owen, M.A.
1691.—MATTHEWS, Andrew, A.M.	1809.—JONES, James, M.A. <sup>11</sup>
1702.—EDWARDS, Richard, M.A. <sup>8</sup>	1848.—OWEN, Edward John, M.A.
1740.—JONES, Thomas, M.A.	

1870.—JONES, Basil Morgan, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Scholar, 1860-65; 2nd Class Classics Mods., 1862, and Hon. 4th in Math., 1863; Deacon, 1866; Priest, 1867; curate of Llanwenarth, dioc. Llandaff, 1866; of Glyndyfrdwy, 1868; Llanfwrog, 1869.

## LLANFWROG.

THE parish of Llanfwrog contains five townships, Street, Bodangharad-ucha, Bodangharad-isa, Cil y Groes-lwyd, and Penycoed, with an area of 3,068 acres, rated at £4,935, and a population of 1,600.

“Llanmurrock taxatur £4:0:10; decima inde, 8s. 1d.”, according to the *Taxatio* of 1291; and “Rectoria de Llan vorok valet £16:13:4; decima, £1:13:4,” according to the *Valor* of 1535. The commuted value is £456 to the rector, and £6 to the parish clerk. There is no glebe house, but 8 a. 1 r. 11 p. of land. The patronage is transferred to the Bishop of St. David's.

The church, originally founded by Mwrog, a saint who lived in the latter part of the seventh century,—and on a subsequent re-building, at a period sufficiently indicated by its peculiar arches of seemingly

<sup>1</sup> “Resident, and kepeth house.” (Bishop Meyrick's *Return*.)

<sup>2</sup> “A poet and great collector of Welsh MSS.” (*Eminent Welshmen*.)

<sup>3</sup> Vicar, 1618; Precentor of Bangor Cathedral, 1621; R. Llanddyfnau and Llantrisant, Warden of Ruthin, 1621.

<sup>4</sup> Chaplain to Bishops Dolben and Roberts of Bangor; V. Llanwnnog, 1632; R. Llangynhafal, 1635; Prebendary of Chester; R. Efenechtyd, 1638; R. Trefdraeth; deprived during the Commonwealth; Archdeacon of Merioneth on the Restoration; and Bishop of Bangor, 1666.

<sup>5</sup> Warden of Ruthin, 1642; deprived; Dean of St. Asaph, 1660. (P. 243.)

<sup>6</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford. *Suprà*, p. 117.

<sup>7</sup> R. Llanfwrog, D.D., R. Llanbedr, and Precentor of Bangor, 1683.

<sup>8</sup> R. Caerwys, 1702; R. Llanfwrog, 1730. <sup>9</sup> R. Llangwyfan, 1739.

<sup>10</sup> Warden of Ruthin, 1784; R. Llanfwrog, 1795.

<sup>11</sup> Second Master of Ruthin School, 1801-9.

transitional Norman, dedicated to the Virgin,—consists of nave and chancel, with north aisle of corresponding length, western tower, and south porch. Having fallen into considerable decay, it has recently been very effectively restored under the direction of Mr. J. D. Sedding of Bristol. In the course of this work the north aisle has been completely rebuilt, a new roof put upon it, new windows inserted, and the fine Pointed arch leading to the western entrance beneath the tower opened out; the space beneath the tower fitted as a vestry, with a door opening into the churchyard; the chancel restored to its original proportions, floored with encaustic tiles, furnished for the choir, and divided from the nave by a low screen, which has been reproduced after the plan of an older one removed but a few years ago by a common carpenter during some repairs of the church, but fragments of which had been preserved in some of the pews and under the desk and pulpit. The pews themselves were at the same time removed, and open seats substituted throughout; and the gallery at the west end of the nave was also taken down. The old oak roof was also repaired, and raised eighteen inches. Colour has been introduced with good effect on the seats and screen, though the appearance was at first somewhat novel. Two memorial windows, by Lavers and Barraud, add greatly to the effect. One to Robert and Sarah Anne Ellis, presented by R. Gregson Ellis, and representing St. Matthew and St. Mark; the other to Elizabeth Williams, ob. 1855, represents in the centre light Our Saviour and Mary and Martha; in one of the side-lights, Our Saviour and the Syro-Phœnician; and in the other side-light, Our Saviour and the woman touching the hem of his garment.<sup>1</sup> The bells, three in number, are inscribed respectively, “Sancte Georgi, ora pro nobis”; “Gloria in excelsis Deo, 1624, W. C.”; and “Noe More ex dono, miserei mei peccatoris, 1691.” The cost of the restoration was about £1,300;<sup>2</sup> but the tower and lych-gate remain yet to be completed. The re-opening, which took place on the 24th June, 1870, was the occasion of the first Welsh sermon preached by Bishop Hughes after his elevation to the see of St. Asaph.

The township of Street lying within the borough of Ruthin, shares in the benefits of the Grammar School; and the National School at Borthyn, erected in 1850, at a cost of £700, for the use of both parishes, is locally situated in this one.

The chief charity is that of the Almshouses, commonly called “The Llanfwrog Hospital,” founded and endowed by JANE LADY BAGOT, the

<sup>1</sup> A gravestone in the churchyard records the name of John Williams, two sisters and a daughter, whose united ages amounted to three hundred and seventy-seven years! The last died in 1851.

<sup>2</sup> The chief contributions were from the St. Asaph Church Building Society, Bishop Carey’s Fund, Bishop Short, Lord Bagot, W. C. West, Esq., Sir Percival Heywood, Bart., F. Elkington, Esq., Mrs. Lloyd of Rhagatt, the Rector of the parish, Rev. Basil M. Jones, vicar of Llanfair, R. G. Ellis, Esq., and W. Greame, Esq.



daughter and heiress of Charles Salusbury of Bachymbyd, Esq., and wife of Sir Walter Bagot of Blithfield, Baronet, who in 1695 bequeathed £1000 in trust, "to purchase lands and tenements of the value of £60 per ann.; and as soon as the said lands could be so purchased, to build an hospital, with gardens to each house, out of the rents and profits of the said lands, for four poor men and six poor women, who were to be elected chiefly out of the parish of Llanynys or such other parishes and places in the county of Denbigh where the estate of the said Sir Walter Bagot and herself did lie; and were to receive yearly, each of them, one gown and £5, if the said rents should rise to so much yearly; or otherwise, to make an equal dividend amongst them of the said yearly profits; the hospital to be repaired out of the said rents." In 1697 certain lands and tenements in Cefnypost, Pencraig, and Bodgynfel, in Merionethshire, were bought with £500 (a moiety of the above bequest): the Almshouses were built by Sir Edward Bagot in 1708; and in 1738 Miss Elizabeth Bagot, afterwards Countess of Uxbridge, daughter of the Lady Jane, added to the endowment £300, which was also to be laid out in land. Owing, however, to some cause or other, legal difficulties, neglect, or oversight, the original purchase-deed was lost sight of, and the last sum not invested in lands; but the whole of the two endowments looked upon as a charge upon the Denbighshire estate, upon which four per cent. per ann. was regularly paid until the year 1836, when, during the inquiry of the Charity Commissioners, the lost deed was discovered in the muniment room at Blithfield. Lord Bagot, who had done all he could to clear the facts of the case, at once offered to transfer the whole of the remaining property supposed to be comprised in the original deed, as well as the moneys received for some years on account of it, to hand over the remaining moiety of £500, and the additional £300; amounting in all to £1,900, which also being invested in land, makes the entire income of the charity about £140 per ann.

The inmates, ten in number (four men and six women), are elected by trustees, viz. Lord Bagot, the patron, and the rectors of Llanfwrog and Clocaenog for the time being. The former is *ex officio* Master of the Hospital. They receive annually £10 8s. each, in addition to fuel and clothing.

The other charities belonging to this parish are:

1669.—A rent-charge of £4 per ann. on Lliidiart-fawr-lydan, in Llangynhafal, left by GRUFFYDD THOMAS AP EVAN in certain proportions between the poor of this parish and those of Llangynhafal and Efenechtyd, with the residue to Clocaenog.

1681.—A third share in the rental of property in Llanbedr bequeathed by the Rev. HUGH PUGH, vicar, in equal portions, to Llanfwrog, Llanbedr, and Christ's Hospital, Ruthin.

Interest on £40 5s., one third of produce of timber sold thereon in 1796, now invested in Denbigh and Wrexham Turnpike Trust.

Interest of £20 left by EDWARD PIERCE in 1669.

Interest of £40 5s. Consolidated Charities, now commuted for £30 lodged in the Ruthin Savings' Bank.



*Lost*.—Bequests of £20, unknown; and £15 by WILLIAM JONES, 1783; both of which sums were laid out for parochial purposes, and the interest formerly paid out of the church-rate.

## RECTORS.

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|---|--|
| 1562.—ELLIS, James, LL.D. <sup>1</sup>    | 1740.—FFOULKES, Edward, A.M. <sup>8</sup>  |
| ——— PARRY, Gabriel, D.D. <sup>2</sup>     | „ LLOYD, William, A.B.                     |
| 1638.—VAUGHAN, Robert                     | „ JONES, Evan                              |
| 1661 (?) ALEXANDER, <sup>3</sup> .....    | 1755.—HUGHES, Thomas, LL.B. <sup>9</sup>   |
| 1665.—GETHIN, John <sup>4</sup>           | 1776.—NANNEY, Robert                       |
| 1668.—PUGH, Hugh, <sup>5</sup> D.D.       | 1790.—OWEN, Edward                         |
| 1675.—FFOULKES, Robert, A.M. <sup>6</sup> | 1795.—PARRY, William, M.A. <sup>10</sup>   |
| 1730.—EDWARDS, Richard, M.A. <sup>7</sup> | 1804.—NEWCOME, Richard, M.A. <sup>11</sup> |

1851.—JONES, James, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; third class, Litt. Hum., and B.A., 1831; Deacon, 1832; Priest, 1833; Second Master of Ruthin School, 1836-46; C. Llandyrnog, 1846-51.

## LLANGWYFAN.

THIS small parish, of only 1,073 acres, rated at £1,486, is almost entirely surrounded by that of Llandyrnog, in the benefit of whose National School it shares. Its population is 246.

In the *Taxatio* of 1291 no mention of it occurs, and it may at that time have formed a portion of Llandyrnog; but in the *Valor* of 1535, “Rectoria de Llan Goyffen valet clare £7:18:8; dec., 10s. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.” The commuted value is £257 10s. per ann.; besides which there is a house and eighteen acres of glebe. The patronage, which formerly belonged to the Bishop of Bangor, has been transferred to the see of Llandaff.

The church, St. Cwyfan (June 3rd) is, like the parish, very small, and composed of a single body, having the east end slightly raised as a chancel. A vestry has lately been added at the north-west angle, and a new window inserted in the west end wall, the old gallery having been removed to make way for a raised platform for the choir. The chancel-window has been filled with memorial glass by Gibbs, the gift

<sup>1</sup> Treasurer of Bangor Cathedral.

<sup>2</sup> Head Master of Ruthin School, 1607-9.

<sup>8</sup> Goodman Pedigree.

<sup>4</sup> S. R. Aberdaron; Prebendary of Llanfair, 1661.

<sup>5</sup> Warden of Ruthin, Archdeacon of Merioneth, and R. Llanbedr, D. C.

<sup>6</sup> V. Llanfair, 1675; D.D., R. Llanbedr, 1683; Precentor of Bangor, 1685.

<sup>7</sup> V. Llanfair, 1702.

<sup>8</sup> Died same year.

<sup>9</sup> Head Master of Ruthin School, 1739; V. Llansilin, 1763.

<sup>10</sup> Head Master of Ruthin School, 1768; V. Llanfair, 1776; Warden of Ruthin, 1784.

<sup>11</sup> Warden of Ruthin, 1804-51; Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1834; V. Llanrhaiadr, 1851.

of Mrs. Williams of Glyn Arthur, to Edmund Blundell Williams, ob. 1853. Subjects,—our Lord blessing little children, and the Good Shepherd. The font, which is of a composite material, and circular in form, is set off with representations, in relief, of the temptation of Adam and Eve, the ark, the baptism of our Lord and of the Ethiopian eunuch.

Two small benefactions, of £3 each, were in 1815 laid out in pewing the church; and six shillings a year allowed as interest out of the church rates, so long as that continued to be paid; but both have now been lost.

## RECTORS.

1561.—LLOYD, Sir Fulke	1753.—MORRIS, David, A.M. <sup>3</sup>
1613.—LLOYD, Edward	1777.—MORRIS, Robert, B.A.
1666.—JONES, Thomas	1790.—ROBERTS, Thomas, M.A. <sup>4</sup>
1720.—DOLBEN, David, M.A. <sup>1</sup>	1794.—WYNNE, John
1729.—JONES, Thomas	1804.—NANNEY, John
1739.—VAUGHAN, Thomas, A.B. <sup>2</sup>	1830.—ROBERTS, R. Ll. A., M.A. <sup>5</sup>

1857.—JONES, John Owen, B.A., Trin. Coll., Dublin; Deacon, 1837; Priest, 1838; curate of Llandyrnog, 1851-7.

## LLANGYNHAFAL.

THE townships of this parish, which are four in number, viz. Trerhos, Tregalas, Trehendre'rwydd, and Trenantynef, contain an area of great extent; much of which, however, is unenclosed, and stretches to the top of Moel Famma. The cultivated portion is 2,364 acres, and its rateable value, £2,552. The population, 497.

"Llanganhavall" in 1291 was returned as worth £4 : 6 : 8, upon which 8s. 8d. were charged as tenths; and in 1535, "Rectoria de Llangynhavall valet clare £15 15s.; dec., £1 : 11 : 6." The Commutation assigned the value at £401 10s. The rector has also a house and 13 a. 14 p. of glebe.<sup>6</sup> The patronage, formerly belonging to the Bishop of Bangor, now belongs to the Bishop of Llandaff.

The church, founded by Cynhafal, a saint of the seventh century, whose festival was held on October 5th, and whose Well<sup>7</sup> was on the

<sup>1</sup> Canon of St. Asaph, 1624; Prebendary of Faenol, 1625; Bishop of Bangor, 1631.

<sup>2</sup> V. Llanfair, D. C., 1753.

<sup>3</sup> R. Ffestiniog, 1753.

<sup>4</sup> Head Master of Ruthin School, 1789.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llangynhafal, 1857.

<sup>6</sup> An exchange of glebe was made in 1809 for an equal portion of a tene-ment called "Cyffion."

<sup>7</sup> It used to be considered famous "for curing warts. This was partly done by pricking them with a pin, which was afterwards thrown into the well." (*Arch. Camb.*, 1846, p. 54.)

mountain side, is an interesting relic of Perpendicular work. It consists of two equal aisles of five bays, formerly divided into chancel and nave by a rood-screen, the upper portion of which was "removed and put around the Communion Table" in 1726, the lower portion being still *in situ*. The roof of the north or chancel-aisle is handsome, having panels richly foliated, angel-corbels, and graceful ornamental bands running along the wall-plate. That of the south aisle is somewhat less finished. The pulpit and desk are of Jacobean work, and date from 1636. Portions of the old stalls survive in the pews, and some of their earliest representatives in some curious and primitive arm-chairs. The Perpendicular east window of the south aisle is of excellent design, the tracery being similar to those at Whitchurch and Abergele. Fragments of stained glass in the earlier windows on the south side represent the instruments of the Passion, and bear the legends, "S'te Dyrnoke... (Ora)te pro animabus Gruffydd ap Jenn ap Enyon et Katerina." The figure of the pelican feeding her young from her own breast, which stands at the east end, is intended to symbolise our Lord feeding His people in the Holy Eucharist.<sup>1</sup> The dates, 1669 on the west end of the south aisle, and 1671 on the belfry, indicate the repairs then made; and the earliest pews date from the same period, 1666, 1678, etc. The screen, as we have already stated, was removed in 1726; and a few years later, 1733, rector Hugh Lloyd presented a silver paten for the Communion Service, to which Mrs. Sarah Williams of Lldiart-y-pwll added the rest of the Communion plate in 1782. In 1835 a stove was purchased for the church; and the same year a bass viol and clarionet, which, however, were in 1864 supplanted by a harmonium. In 1869-70 considerable repairs and alterations were made at an outlay of about £200, the pillars and arches cleared of their plaster, the roof repaired, a portion of the west end boarded off, for the twofold purpose of forming a vestry and rendering the church more warm, and a new but somewhat incongruous south porch, made to supplant the more primitive but dilapidated erection of 1671. Its early square-headed door has the hollows of its deeply fluted mouldings partly filled with animal figures in relief. This is now the only entrance, the old west door having been for some time disused.

In 1833 a National School was erected at a cost of £58 10s. (£30 of which was granted by the National Society), the parishioners giving the carriage of the materials, on a site which the Rev. A. B. Mesham conveyed to the rector and churchwardens on the condition that it should be used as a school for the two parishes of Llangynhafal and Llanychan, and that the master should be a Protestant. This has

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<sup>1</sup> "Y Pelican gwiwlân gwar  
A'i waed yn bwydo 'r adar,  
Yr un modd er ein mwyn  
Bu farw Mab y Forwyn."



been superseded<sup>1</sup> by the new National School built in Llanychan parish, in 1866, for the accommodation of the above and Llanynys parishes. It is endowed with £5 per ann., the interest of £100 charged upon Plas-yn-lan by William Wynne in 1723.

The charities :

1. A tenement of four acres, called "Gefel y Parc," in Llanrhaiadr parish, bought in 1730 with £75 5s. of charity money;<sup>2</sup> half an acre added in 1822, under the Brynmullan Enclosure Act. Present rental, £6 6s.

2. Rent-charge on Llidiart-fawr-lydan, by GRUFFYDD THOMAS AB EVAN in 1669, £1.

3. Interest of £180 (being two sums of £100, *minus* legacy duty) left equally by Miss CATHERINE DAVIES and Miss MARGARET DAVIES, of Plas-isa, in 1863, for clothing the poor. Invested in land at 4 per cent.

#### RECTORS.

1561.—HUGHES, John, LL.B. <sup>3</sup>	1708.—LEWIS, William, A.B.
1562.—THOMAS, Rowland, LL.D. <sup>4</sup>	1719.—LEWIS, Lewis
1619.—ROBERTS, John, A.M. <sup>5</sup>	1729.—LLOYD, Hugh, A.M. <sup>10</sup>
1627.—PRICHARD, Griffith <sup>6</sup>	1749.—WYNNE, William, A.M. <sup>11</sup>
1632.—PARRY, Gabriel, S.T.B. <sup>7</sup>	1760.—JENKINS, Thomas
1635.—MORGAN, Robert, A.M. <sup>8</sup>	1787.—JONES, William, M.A.
1642.—LLOYD, David, D.C.L. <sup>9</sup>	1814.—HUGHES, David, M.A. <sup>12</sup>
1704.—PRICE, John	1817.—JONES, John, M.A. <sup>13</sup>
1706.—Bishop in <i>commendam</i>	1831.—JONES, John, M.A. <sup>14</sup>

1857.—ROBERTS, Robert Lloyd Anwyl, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford ; Deacon, 1821 ; Priest, 1822 ; curate of Gyffylliog, 1821 ; rector of Llangwyfan, 1830-57.

<sup>1</sup> It is now used as a cottage, and the rental £2 10s. per ann.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Robert, £43 ; Edward Wynn of Plas draw, £20 ; a Strange Pedlar, £10 ; John Doulsen, £10 ; and Wm. Davies, £5. (Old benefaction-table.)

<sup>3</sup> "Resident, and kepethe house." (Bishop Meyrick's *Return*.) R. Llanbedr, D. C. ; Canon and Prebendary of Bangor Cathedral.

<sup>4</sup> Archdeacon of Bangor, 1534 ; Dean of Bangor and Chancellor of the Diocese, 1570.

<sup>5</sup> Prebendary of Llanfair in Bangor Cathedral.

<sup>6</sup> R. Llangelynin, 1613 ; Canon of Bangor, 1626.

<sup>7</sup> Master of Ruthin School, 1607 ; R. Llanfwrog ; R. Denbigh, 1613 ; Precentor of Bangor, 1632.

<sup>8</sup> V. Llanfair, D. C., 1637 ; Bishop of Bangor, 1666.

<sup>9</sup> Warden of Ruthin ; Dean of St. Asaph, 1660.

<sup>10</sup> V. Llanasa, 1716 ; V. Mold, 1717 ; Prebendary of Meifod, 1730.

<sup>11</sup> V. Llanbryn-mair, 1740 ; R. Manafon, 1747. Several of his Welsh poems appear in *Dewisol Ganiadau yr oes hon*, published by Hugh Jones of Llangwm in 1759.

<sup>12</sup> Head Master of Ruthin School, 1796.

<sup>13</sup> Of Plas-yn-Llan ; R. Efenecttyd, 1799.

<sup>14</sup> Canon of Bangor ; V. Llanrhaiadr, D. C., 1857.



LLANRHAIADR.<sup>1</sup>

THIS large parish, which is about fourteen miles in length by three in breadth, contains the nine townships of Cader, Meifod, Segroit ucha, Segroit isa, Cliccedig, Prion, Llan Llech and Llwyn, Trefydd bychain, and Llewesog; with a total population of 1888; and an area of 16,308 acres, of which about two thirds are under cultivation, and rated at £13,725. Ecclesiastically, however, the district of Prion, which has been formed out of it, supplies the spiritual wants of from four to five hundred, and another portion lies contiguous to the parish church of Nantglyn.

From earliest times the church has been attached to the see of Bangor, and the Bishop is still not only the rector of the parish, but also lord of the manor of Llech Llan and Meifod. In the *Taxatio* of 1291 "ecclesia de Llanrhaiadr" is returned, according to Browne Willis,<sup>2</sup> at "vi merc et dimid'," *i. e.*, £4 : 6 : 8; being the Llan Tudvo (*i. e.* Llanddyfnog) of the Record Commission (p. 403 *suprà*). An inquiry of lands of the bishopric of Bangor, taken after Bishop Clidewrow's death in 1436, mentions "two bovates of plough-land and three acres of pasture in 'villa de Llanrayadr,' valued at 4s. 6d.; of which one moiety belonged to the Dean and Chapter, and the other to the King, in virtue of the vacant see."<sup>3</sup> The Patent for the restitution of the appropriation to the Dean and Chapter<sup>4</sup> throws much light on its history, for it recites that from time immemorial the Dean and Chapter had been in possession thereof, "in jure dictæ ecclesiæ suæ Cathedralis ut de quadam ecclesia eidem ecclesiæ appropriata, ad usum canonicorum residentium"; that the said Dean and Chapter were, therefore, bound to perform divine service, and say masses for the souls of their founders; and had hitherto done so, but were no longer able to continue it, because Henry IV, 'tempore rebellionis Walliæ,' had assumed the advowson to himself, and presented thereto one John Bolton; on whose death the Lord Chancellor, "virtute officii sui quendam Johannem Morton presentavit eo quod ecclesia illa infra taxam xx marcarum comperta fuerit.' Henry VI, in consideration thereof, now restored (A.D. 1441) to them their right, for the same purpose and uses as before his grandfather's presentation had been customary."

<sup>1</sup> "The church of the cataract or rushing stream," which bursts forth from the strong spring called "Ffynnon Ddyfnog" hard by. "This fountain," writes Pennant (ii, p. 136), "is enclosed in an angular wall decorated with small human figures, and before is the well for the use of the pious bathers." This was in 1773. Only the site now remains.

<sup>2</sup> B. W., *Bangor*, 1721. It is not mentioned in the Public Record copy of the *Taxatio*, 1802; but is given as "Llan Tudvo" for "Llanddyfnog."

<sup>3</sup> B. W., *Bangor*, Append. xxii, p. 237.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, Append. xxiii, p. 239.

In the *Valor Eccles.* of Henry VIII, A.D. 1535, we next find, among the temporalities of the Bishop of Bangor, "Maner' de Llanrayader et Keymm'ch valet ad firmam per annum cum perquisitis curiæ et aliis percipiendis, sic dimissis Henrico Salesbury, generoso, £4 : 6 : 1; inde in repris' Feodum Petri Salesbury, Senescalli, per ann., 13s. 4d."; and among the spiritualities of the diocese, "Rectoria valet clare, £30; decima, £3. Vicaria, £28 : 13 : 4; decima, £2 : 7 : 4." No mention is made of the appropriation of the rectory; but it seems to have been enjoyed by some member of the Chapter until by the Act 1 James II, A.D. 1685, together with the archdeaconries of Anglesey and Bangor (which had already been taken *in commendam*), it was finally united to the bishopric in augmentation of the income, the certain amount of which was not £200 a year.<sup>1</sup> The Commutation Returns give the value of the rectorial tithes payable to the Bishop of Bangor as £765, and those of the vicar as £766. These latter, however, are subject to a deduction of £150 per ann., payable to the vicar of Prion. The vicarage house, built in 1820, is one of the most beautifully situated of any in the diocese, and has fifteen acres of glebe attached to it. The patronage, formerly belonging to the Bishop of Bangor, has been transferred to the Bishop of St. Asaph.

The church, St. Dyfnog (February 13th), is, like the one at Whitchurch, Perpendicular in its general character, consists of two equal aisles with a western tower, and possesses several features of interest. Browne Willis speaks of it as "remarkable for the finest painted glass window in all Wales"; and, for his time (1720), perhaps not undeservedly so.<sup>2</sup> Its subject is the genealogy of our Lord, traced through the kings of Judah from the root of Jesse. There are two theories as to its original source,—the common one, that it was brought hither from Basingwerk Abbey at its dissolution;<sup>3</sup> and another, that it was bought with the offerings of pilgrims to St. Dyfnog's Well. During the commotions of the Commonwealth it was taken down, and, having been concealed in the great oak chest which is still preserved in the church, it was buried in a neighbouring plantation; and on the Restoration "was put up again, in 1661, at the parish's expense of £60."<sup>4</sup> This concealment accounts for the omission of any notice of it in *Symonds' Diary*,<sup>5</sup> where there is this description of the east window, chancel,—or, a lion rampant between three crescents *argent*, with "Laus Deo" about in scrolls. A male effigy in armour, and having a

<sup>1</sup> Browne Willis' *Bangor*, Append. xxxiii, p. 291.

<sup>2</sup> There is a similar window, though not quite so perfect, in Dissertth Church.

<sup>3</sup> The date "mccccxxxiii" would thus accord with the time of setting it up there; or it may, like many others, have been made at that Abbey.

<sup>4</sup> Br. Willis.

<sup>5</sup> "Diary of the Marches of the Royal Army during the great Civil War." (Camden Society, 1859.)

surcoat with these arms upon the breast and sleeves ; over head, a scroll bearing this inscription, "Jesu, degne on us sinners have mercy. Thomas Salisbery." The date of this was 1508. A window on the south side, recently filled with painted glass to the memory of Mrs. Margaret Hughes of Ystrad, ob. 1854, represents in its several lights the Nativity, Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension of our Lord, with four of the works of mercy beneath. The Perpendicular roof is very handsome, being divided into panels with well carved bosses, and still retaining its wall-pieces and angel-corbels as of old. That of the chancel is very elaborate, having panels richly foliated, and horizontal running bands of the vine pattern. The ambry is still visible in the eastern wall ; but the old rood-screen has been used up in the gallery at the west end, and the stoup converted into one of the coping stones of the churchyard wall. In the vestry is preserved the emblematic pelican which once stood above the altar here as at Llan-gynhafal. An organ was erected in 1847.

Among the principal monuments in the church is a recumbent effigy of Maurice Jones of Ddol, ob. 1702, erected by his widow, daughter of Sir W. Bagot. Among others commemorated here are the Myddeltons of Ystrad ; Lloyds of Pentre, Llwyn, and Rossa ; Dolbens and Mostyns of Segroit ; Captains Wynne and Salusbury, slain during the siege of Denbigh Castle in 1646 ; and one to John ap Robert of Porth, whose genealogy is traced back to Cadell, king of Powis, ob. 1642. The body of a Mrs. Anne Parry, on being exhumed about 1838 (some forty years after her burial), is stated by Mr. Roscoe to have been found in a remarkable state of freshness and preservation, and the same is said to have occurred three years afterwards.<sup>1</sup> The Communion plate, which cost £60, an altar-cloth, three English Prayer Books and a folio Bible, were presented to the church by Madam Jones of Plas Newydd (widow of the above Maurice Jones of Ddol), who also in 1729 erected an almshouse here for eight poor persons ; which she further endowed, conjointly with other objects,<sup>2</sup> with a sum of £2,300. This is now represented by Gwnodl-fawr farm and its allotments ; the annual rental of which, with the shooting, is £160 per ann. ; and the interest of £514:3:10 (in Lord Bagot's hands) at £4 per cent. per ann. (£21:13:8). The inmates, eight in number,<sup>3</sup> receive £1 each monthly, with coals and clothing. The

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<sup>1</sup> Davies' *Vale of Clwyd*.

<sup>2</sup> Viz. £150 were to be paid to Corwen parish for thirty poor householders, £100 to Gwyddelwern for twenty, £80 to Trawsfynydd for sixteen, £50 to Beddgelert for ten, and £20 to each of the following, Llanfor, Maentwrog and Festiniog in Merionethshire, and Llanbeblig, Llanarmon, and Dwygyfylchi in Carnarvonshire, for four poor householders. The interest to be distributed on St. Thomas' Day.

<sup>3</sup> These were four men and four women ; but in consequence of the age and infirmities of the inmates, one of the women's houses is now occupied by a matron who attends to their wants.



management of the charity rests with Lord Bagot, the founders having been of that family.

The other charities belonging to the parish consist of :

		£	s.	d.
1.	Rent-charge on Plas Panton, in Llansannan, by Peter Lloyd	1	0	0
2.	„ on Foel in Llanrhaiadr . . . . .	0	10	0
3.	„ on Tynyffridd, by John Lloyd, Rosindale, in 1639	0	6	8
4.	„ on Penygarth, in Llanynys, by Thomas Wynne of Llewesog, the donor of Cae 'r felin . . . . .	0	3	8
5.	Rent of Tyrednon tenement, with Gwerglodd Tylodion*	24	13	0
6.	„ Brynyrasgwrn <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	18	0	0
7.	„ Cae 'r felin, near Groes . . . . .	13	0	0
8.	„ Tylyrne* . . . . .	6	7	0
9.	„ Crwcewd* . . . . .	4	10	0
				£68 10 4 <sup>2</sup>

The cottages at Tylyrne and Crwcewd, seven in number, are vested in the wardens, and let, rent free, to poor families.

In the year 1750 a Charity School was set up by subscription,<sup>3</sup> which has since then received the following benefactions, viz. in 1762, Robert Jones, £50 ; Robert Lloyd, £10, in 1764 ; Rev. Dr. Wynne and Rossa Charity, each £20 ; J. Conway, Esq., £10 ; and three small sums amounting to £12 ; and in 1775, Rev. Robert Roberts, £20. These sums, amounting in all to £142, form the endowment of the school.

A new National School has been erected this year (1871) at a cost of £750,<sup>4</sup> on a site near the village, given by J. Price, Esq., Llanrhaiadr Hall.

\* These lands, containing 32 a. 3 r. 37 p., were bought with benefactions amounting to £179 13s., the principal of which were £20 each from Owen Wynne, Elizabeth Roberts, Thomas Lloyd, and Mrs. Jane Wynne ; £16 from Foulk Hughes, and £10 from Dorothy Hughes. Cottages have also been built at Tylyrne and Crwcewd, with benefactions of £20 by John Davies in 1779, £10 by Henry Davies in 1783, and £20 by the Rev. Robert Roberts in 1817.

<sup>1</sup> Bought in 1856 with £200, the bequest of Mrs. Gartside in 1823 ; £50, the bequest of Mrs. Anne Jones in 1830 ; and about £110, borrowed money, of which about £50 still remains unpaid.

<sup>2</sup> Outgoings : To Bishop of Bangor, 4d. per ann. ; to J. Lloyd Wynne, Esq., Coedcôch, 2s. 4d. ; and interest of £50, unrepaid debt.

<sup>3</sup> There had been a school here still earlier, as one Thomas Anwyl was licensed to it in 1721. Another Master Risiart ap Robert translated Kettlewell's work into Welsh, *Y Credadyn Bucheddol*, 1763.

<sup>4</sup> Grants made by the Committee of Council, St. Asaph Diocesan Board of Education, and the Carey Fund.



## SINECURE RECTORS.

- 1400.—BOLTON, John, by Henry IV, "ad cujus mortem,"  
 (1415.—HUNGARTON, Roger,<sup>1</sup> Archdeacon of Merioneth.)  
 „ MORTON, John, *suprà*.  
 1511.—SALUSBURY, Fulk, Dean of St. Asaph.<sup>2</sup>  
 1544.—RUNCORN, Thomas, Archdeacon of Bangor.  
 1561.—GWYNNE, John, LL.D.,<sup>3</sup> Preb. of Llanfair.  
 1574-1685, Bishops *in commendam*.

## VICARS.

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|---|--|
| 1561.—DAVIES, Hugh <sup>4</sup>             | 1786.—ROBERTS, Robert, M.A.                |
| 1581.—PRICE, Theodore, D.D. <sup>5</sup>    | 1817.—MAJENDIE, Henry W., M.A.             |
| 1626.—HILL, William, M.A. <sup>6</sup>      | 1818.—WILLIAMS, Peter                      |
| 1683 (?).—LLOYD, Francis, A.M. <sup>7</sup> | 1821.—WILLIAMS, Edward, A.M.               |
| 1716.—PRICE, William, A.B.                  | 1843.—HOWARD, Richard, D.D. <sup>10</sup>  |
| 1734.—WYNNE, Hugh, D.D. <sup>8</sup>        | 1851.—NEWCOME, Richard, M.A. <sup>11</sup> |
| 1754.—ROBERTS, Robert, A.M.                 | 1857.—JONES, John, M.A. <sup>12</sup>      |
| 1776.—ROBERTS, John, A.M. <sup>9</sup>      |  |

1862.—THOMAS, Thomas, M.A., Jesus College, Oxon.; Deac., 1828; Pr., 1829; curate of Llanfair Caereinion, 1828-31; Rhuabon, 1831-5; V. Llanbeblig with Carnarvon, 1835-59; V. Rhuabon, 1859-62; Rural Dean of Wrexham; Canon Residentiary of Bangor Cathedral, 1864. Author, *Visitation Sermon*, 1842.

<sup>1</sup> Probably appointed by the Dean and Chapter on the death of him, who had been superseded by Bolton.

<sup>2</sup> Prebendary of Llanfair, in Bangor Cathedral, 1541, and rector of Llandrynog.

<sup>3</sup> Prebendary of Llanfair, in Bangor Cathedral. By his will, in 1571, he left a rent-charge of £40 per ann. on his estate near Llanrwst, to found three fellowships and six scholarships in St. John's College, Cambridge, with preference to natives of Llanfair and Llanrhaiadr; and next, to those of Nantconway and Maenan. He was of the Gwydir family.

<sup>4</sup> *Alias* Johns, (resideth) and "kepith house." (Bishop Meyrick's *Return*.)

<sup>5</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford; R. Llanfair, near Harlech, 1581; Prebendary of Winchester, 1596; Principal of Hart Hall, Oxford, 1604; Prebendary of Westminster, 1623.

<sup>6</sup> Canon of Bangor, 1617; R. Llanbeulan; Prebendary of Llanfair, 1626.

<sup>7</sup> Oriel College, Oxford; R. Llandyrnog; Prebendary of Llanfair, 1683.

<sup>8</sup> Archdeacon of Merioneth; R. Dolgelley, 1723; R. Llanbedr, D. C., 1729.

<sup>9</sup> Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1785.

<sup>10</sup> V. Dwygyfylchi, 1811; R. Denbigh, 1818; V. Nantglyn, 1823-6; R. Llandegfan with Beaumaris, 1826; Canon of Bangor.

<sup>11</sup> Warden of Ruthin and R. Llanfwrog, 1804-51; Canon of Bangor, 1821; Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1834.

<sup>12</sup> Second Master of Ruthin School; R. Llangynhafal, 1831-57; Hon. Canon of Bangor.

## PRION.

FORMED out of the mother parish of Llanrhaiadr, this ecclesiastical district comprises the townships of Prion and Trefydd-bychain, with portions of those of Llewesog, Segroit ucha, Segroit isa, and Cader, being the upper and mountainous parts of the parish; and has a population of 479. It is endowed with £150 per ann. out of the vicarial tithes, but has neither house nor glebe. Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The church (St. James) consists of chancel and nave, with vestry on the north and porch on the south side, and is built in the Early English style of the thirteenth century. The east window a triple lancet; those of the south side being double, and foliated. Seats for two hundred and fifty. Cost £850. Increased by the churchyard-wall, gates, bell, law, and other expenses, to a total of £1,230.<sup>1</sup> The site was given by J. Parry Jones, Esq. Architect, R. Lloyd Williams. It was consecrated on the 25th August, 1859, by the Bishop of Bangor (Campbell), who on that occasion preached his first Welsh sermon in the diocese.

The National School was built in 1864.

## INCUMBENTS.

1859.—HUGHES, Richard Owen, rector of Llysfaen, 1868.

1868.—WILLIAMS, Lewis, St. Bees; Deacon, 1862; Priest, 1863; curate of Llangadfan, 1862; Llanrbaiadr, 1863; R. Llanfrothen, dioc. Bangor, 1866.

## LLANYCHAN.

THIS very small parish contains only 567 acres, rated at £1,369, and a population of 114. No notice of it as a distinct parish occurs in the *Taxatio* of 1291; but in the *Valor Eccles.* of 1535 we read that "Rectoria de Llan Hichen valet clare £7 : 17 : 6; decima, 15s. 9d." Its present value, according to the Commutation, is £196 10s. There is also a house built by Rector Pierce, and seven acres of glebe. The

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<sup>1</sup> The chief contributors were the late Bishop of Bangor (Bethel), £200; Incorporated C. B. S., £125; Bangor C. B. S., £100; Archdeacon Newcome; J. Price, Esq., Llanrhaiadr; Bertie Mostyn, Esq., Segroit; Townshend Mainwaring, Esq.; Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P.; Mrs. Mostyn; Rev. R. Myddelton; the Misses Howard; J. Ll. Wynne, Esq., Coed Côch; H. R. Hughes of Kinnel; Lord Newborough; Lord Bagot; J. H. Ainsworth, Esq.; Bishop Short; Mrs. C. Barrett; and Thos. Hughes, Esq., Ystrad.

living is a rectory, in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph, to whom it has recently been transferred from the Bishop of Bangor.<sup>1</sup>

The church, founded apparently in the fifth century by Hychan, one of the holy family of Brychan Brycheiniog, whose festival was August 8th, is, like the parish, very small (42 feet by 18 feet), and distinguished only by a step into chancel and nave; though portions of the elegant screen which once marked the division, have been preserved in the reredos<sup>2</sup> and on the panels of the pulpit and the desk. The windows of the south side are square-headed with trefoiled lights. The date, "R. T., 1626," on the same side, indicates some repairs done at that time. The organ was brought here from Llanbedr church.

The new National School was erected chiefly at the expense of John Tabor, Esq., of Claremont, and is intended to supply the wants of the three parishes of Llanychan, Llangynhafal, and Llanyyns.

The only charity now belonging to the parish is a rent-charge of 20s. per ann. on Cefniwreh, in Tre 'r Parc, Gyffylliog, left by Sidney Jones in 1746. The three following have been lost, viz., £120 left by the Rev. Maurice Jones, rector in 1735,—the interest to be applied to apprenticing poor children, or relief of clergy widows; £10 left by the Rev. William Lloyd in 1757; and £5 by Mrs. Austin, date unknown.

#### RECTORS.

1675.—JONES, Richard <sup>3</sup>	1785.—PIERCE, John <sup>7</sup>
1690.—JONES, Maurice, B.D. <sup>4</sup>	1789.—SUTTON, William, B.A. <sup>8</sup>
1725.—EDWARDS, Richard, M.A. <sup>5</sup>	1794.—JONES, Richard, B.A. <sup>9</sup>
1730.—LLOYD, Edward, A.M. <sup>6</sup>	1806.—JONES, Richard, B.A.
„ LLOYD, William	1814.—JONES, John, M.A. <sup>10</sup>
1758.—RICHARDS, David, A.B.	1831.—DAVIES, John, B.A. <sup>11</sup>
1767.—FFOULKES, David, A.B.	1844.—WILLIAMS, William, B.A. <sup>12</sup>
1778.—LLOYD, David, B.A.	

1869.—JONES, Henry, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Deacon, 1854; Priest, 1857; curate of Llandderfel, 1854-8; Llanyblodwel, 1858.

<sup>1</sup> The manor of Rhôs, in this parish, belongs to the see of Bangor, the steward of which used to hold a court-leet and baron at Easter.

<sup>2</sup> This was inserted in 1846.

<sup>3</sup> Chancellor of Bangor. Deprived as a Non-juror.

<sup>4</sup> R. Cerrigydrudion, 1697; Canon of St. Asaph, 1702.

<sup>5</sup> V. Llanfair, D. C., 1702; R. Llanfwrog, 1730.

<sup>6</sup> Died same year.

<sup>7</sup> Second Master of Ruthin School; R. Efenechtyd, 1778; V. Towyn, 1785.

<sup>8</sup> R. Clocaenog, 1763.

<sup>9</sup> V. Llanyyns, 1806.

<sup>10</sup> Second Master of Ruthin School; R. Llangynhafal, 1831; Hon. Canon of Bangor; V. Llanrhaiadr, 1857; Editor of *Mason's Welsh Sermons*, 2 vols., Ruthin, 1830.

<sup>11</sup> R. Derwen, 1844.

<sup>12</sup> St. John's College, Cambridge; chaplain to the County Gaol, and Sunday Evening Lecturer at St. Peter's, Ruthin.



## LLANYNYS.

"THE church of the island," so called, writes Leland, "because it is set between the rivers Clwyd and Clywedog, as in an isle."<sup>1</sup> Its six townships, of Bachymbyd and Ysgeibion in the hundred of Is-Aled and Maes-Maen-Cymro, Bryn Caredig, Trefechan and Rhydonnen in that of Ruthin, embrace a total area of 4,922 acres, of the rateable value of £7,813.<sup>2</sup> The population is 723.

The *Taxatio* of 1291 gives "Llanynys, £16; decima, £1 12s."; without any mention of a vicarage, which may have been called into existence when the church was appropriated, together with that of Llanfair, to the improvement of the services and the repairs of the fabric of the Cathedral of Bangor in 1387.<sup>3</sup> The burning of the Cathedral by Glyndwr and his adherents in 1402, in revenge upon Bishop Yonge, who was a partisan of the English, and its lying in ruins till the choir was rebuilt about the year 1500, supply a reason why the appropriation does not appear to have taken effect: so far, at least, as concerns this case; no notice being taken of it in the *Valor* of 1535, which returns the "rectoria at £26:13:4, dec. £2:13:4"; and the "vicaria at £8:13:4, dec. 17s. 4d." From Bishop Meyrick's Return to Archbishop Parker in 1561 there appears to have been a dispute as to the sinecure rectory, for which there were two claimants, "Thomas Mylle, pretensid parson of Llanynys, stuard of household to the Right Honorable therle of Arundel, not resident"; and "also Mr. John Oxenburge, M'r of Arts, instituted and inducted pretensid parson of the said parsonage of Llanynys, student in Oxon.; the said benefice being litigious."<sup>4</sup> Whatever the occasion of this dispute, the adwowsion, as stated in the above grant of Richard II, belonged to the Bishop ("de patronatu *Episcopi*"), and so continued until the Mortuary Act,<sup>5</sup> passed in 1712, abrogating the payment of mortuaries in the four Welsh dioceses, enacted that in the diocese of Bangor, the first rectory "sine curâ," in the collation of the Bishop of the diocese, should be annexed to the bishopric in recompense thereof; and so this sinecure, being the first to fall vacant, became permanently annexed to the see in lieu of mortuaries,—like that of Northop in St. Asaph. The exchange must have been satisfactory alike to the families of the clergy, who were relieved thereby of a burdensome tax; and to the Bishop, who obtained in lieu thereof tithes commuted at £667:3:4; those of the vicar being £348:11:8, and the parish clerk £12. The same Act embraced the daughter parish of Gyffylliog (*q. v.*) The vicar has a

<sup>1</sup> Itinerary, v, 7.

<sup>2</sup> This is exclusive of Gyffylliog.

<sup>3</sup> Pat. 10, Ric. II, p. 1, m. 43, "pro eccl. de Llanynys et Llanvayre appropriandis pro sustentatione et reparatione ecclesie cathedralis." (B. Willis' *Bangor*, App. XIX, p. 222.)

<sup>4</sup> B. Willis' *Bangor*, p. 268.

<sup>5</sup> See *suprà*, p. 130.



glebe house, erected in 1807-8, and three acres of land, including the site of the house and the churchyard.

The church, which is said to have been founded by St. Mor,<sup>1</sup> and dedicated subsequently to St. Saeran, who was buried here, is large and interesting. It consists of two equal aisles of eight bays, with south porch, and western gable for two bells. The roof, which is Perpendicular, was once handsome, and still shews its moulded beams and rafters, as well as the wall-pieces of the north or chancel-aisle. The angel-corbels, however, have gone, and it has had to be tied together by some plain beams across both aisles. The original arches and pillars have disappeared, and square casemented beams have been made to supply their place. A portion of the west end was boarded off in some alterations made about four years ago. Some of the pews shew specimens of quaint carving,—*e. g.*, one under the north window, dated 1570; and another inscribed "John Richards, vicarius Llanynys, Mar. 26, 1613." A shield on the Communion Table is dated 1637. The east window of the chancel-aisle is a good Perpendicular of five lights; that of the south aisle, recently restored, has three lights, and is filled with painted glass,<sup>2</sup> the subject being Christ blessing little children. There are mural tablets to the families of Cerrig llwydion, the Lloyds of Berth, and others; and several remains of earlier Christian art. Some beautiful screen-work of Perpendicular or transitional Decorated has been laid on the porch door, and on the label above an inscription which seems to indicate the date 1540. The mutilated effigy of an ecclesiastic, sadly defaced, lies at the west end of the church; and an incised slab bearing a lion rampant and a rose on the shield, with the inscription, "Hic jacet ... ap Madoc"... forms the side of the south chancel or priest's door. On the churchyard wall are preserved a curious hexagonal slab, which is carved with a representation of the Crucifixion on one side, and on the other a bishop with a crozier in his left hand, in the act of blessing;<sup>3</sup> and also another slab with three figures much defaced, such as might once have formed a mural tablet, or the side of an altar-tomb.

"The Poore Man's Booke, an Account of the Poore Man's Box in the Church of Llanynys, 1662," is interesting as shewing the amount and disposition of the offerings for the support of the poor in days long antecedent to the present Poor Law system. The charities at the present time consist of

<sup>1</sup> The founder of Llanfor, near Bala; though possibly in both cases the connexion may have been other than ecclesiastical, as between Ynys and Mor, Mor and Llyn (Tegid).

<sup>2</sup> Erected by Mrs. Williams-Edwards of Cerrig llwydion, 1855.

<sup>3</sup> The stone as well as the mutilated effigy have probably an intimate connexion with an old house in the parish called "Plas yr Esgob" (the bishop's palace), the granary of which was formerly covered with inscriptions, "Gloria Deo," "Gloria in excelsis Domino," "Laus Deo," and had most likely been at one time the domestic chapel.

Interest of £20 charged by EDWARD AP THOMAS, of Maes-maen-Cymro, on Gwerglodd Newydd and Hirddol in Bachymbyd.

Ditto of £20<sup>1</sup> charged upon Plas-y-ward Farm.

Ditto, £5 by EDWARD JONES of Cerrig llwydion in 1734.

5s. rent-charge on cottage and quillets in Trefechan, by—WILLIAMS.

Mrs. Frances LLOYD in 1754 left a sum of money, variously stated to have been £100, £70, and £60, for white bread to the poor of Llanynys and Gyffylliog; and a further sum of £30 for a school near Rhydyceilgwyn. Besides this school, which is a small one, that at Llanychan supplies a considerable portion of this and Llangyhafal as well as its own parish.

*Lost Charities.*—£20 left by John Davies, and £10 by Thomas Lloyd, through the insolvency, in 1816, of the person to whom they had been lent; £50 by some unknown benefactor; and Abel Mitchell's Charity, for which see Henllan.

## SINECURE RECTORS.

1561.—MYLLE, Thomas

1697.—BALDERSTON, John, D.D.

„ OXENBURGE, John

„ Bishops of Bangor in lieu of mortuaries.

1640.—LLOYD, Simon, A.M.<sup>2</sup>

1684.—EACHARD, John, D.D.

## VICARS.

1561.—EDWARDS, John

1739.—PARRY, Thomas, A.B.

1613.—RICHARDS, John

1747.—RUTTER, Thomas, A.M.

1637.—SPARK, Robert

1759.—SUTTON, William<sup>5</sup>

1640.—LLOYD, Simon, A.M.

1763.—ROBERTS, Thomas, A.M.

1674.—LLOYD, Richard

1806.—JONES, Richard, M.A.<sup>6</sup>

1676.—KINGSTON, Francis

1825.—ROBERTS, Ellis, A.M.<sup>7</sup>

1683.—LLOYD, John, A.M.<sup>3</sup>

1844.—OWEN, Henry, A.M.<sup>8</sup>

1718.—MAURICE, Peter, A.M.<sup>4</sup>

1850.—GRIFFITH, John, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Deacon, 1829; Priest, 1831; curate of Llangelynin, 1829; Llanerchymedd, 1832-50; Rural Dean, 1862-70; contributor to Welsh periodicals.

<sup>1</sup> Made up of £17 by Mr. Matthew Jones (1703), and £3 by Mrs. Anne Price.

<sup>2</sup> Rector and vicar. Deprived during the Commonwealth; but reinstated at the Restoration. Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1672; Preb. of Llanfair in Bangor Cathedral, 1673. Buried here. The inscription on his monument given in B. Willis, p. 145.

<sup>3</sup> V. Estyn or Hope, 1680; Warden of Ruthin, 1682.

<sup>4</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford; "Ecclesiæ Cheltenham nuper pastor"; Treasurer of the Cathedral of Bangor, 1720; Chancellor, 1747; Prebendary of Penmynydd, 1750.

<sup>5</sup> R. Clocaenog, 1763. <sup>6</sup> R. Llanychan, 1794. <sup>7</sup> A.M., Jesus Coll., Oxf.

<sup>8</sup> Jesus College, Cambridge; R. Llangefni, 1850; Rural Dean; Proctor in Convocation for the diocese of Bangor; author of sermons on "Adenedigaeth ym Medydd."

GYFFYLLIOG.<sup>1</sup>

THIS parish contains four townships, Tre Parc, Trefor, Treganol, and Ffriddoedd; with an area of 5,779 acres, rated at £2,338 10s. The population, 567.

Ecclesiastically it has been annexed, from time immemorial, to Llanynys, and is probably but an early ecclesiastical district formed out of that parish, and attached to this church as a chapel of ease, six miles distant from the mother church. No notice of it occurs either in the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas, or in the *Valor Eccles.* of Henry VIII. The tithes, like those of the mother church, are divided into three parts; two of which belong to the rector, the Bishop of Bangor; and the other to the vicar of Llanynys, who has to provide the stipend of the curate. The Commutation fixed those of the former at £203, and those of the latter at £116, besides £5 to the parish clerk. There is no glebe house or land.

The church, St. Mary's, is very small, 58 feet by 21 feet, belongs to the fifteenth century, and consists of a single body. The walls are built of large shingles taken from the bed of the river; and at the west end, inside, there is a heavy timber framing which formerly carried a wooden belfry;<sup>2</sup> but this has long since been destroyed, and a rude stone turret substituted in the seventeenth century. The roof and porch are similar to those of the old church at Llanbedr, and differ from the usual local type as seen at Llanfair, Llanrhaiadr, etc. Remains exist of a fine rood-loft; half of the lower portion in its original position, but the loft itself converted into a west gallery. A Jacobean chest contains some interesting parochial records, one of which runs as follows: "Saturday, Sept. 27th, 1645, bee it remembered that King Charles was, this day and year above written, making his rendezvous in the parish of Gyffylliog, in a place there called Cefnfeusydd. The siege began at Ruthyn the 25th of January, 1646; the ditto at Denbigh, April 17th, 1646." The pulpit and reading desk, "an enormous pile of bare deal," were removed in 1856, and new ones, more appropriate, substituted for them. The chancel was at the same time raised and reflagged. It is now in contemplation to restore and refurnish the church throughout, including a thorough repair of the fabric, the introduction of a two-light window in the north wall, and the addition of a north vestry. A new stone turret is to replace the present one; and the beautiful carved tracery of the old rood-screen will be worked into the new chancel-seats, which are designed after

<sup>1</sup> Variouslly derived (1) from *cyff*, a stem, and *ffylliawg*, gloomy or shady; i. e., the shady trunks;—(2), "*ita dicta*," according to Browne Willis (*Bangor*, 278), "*quod ibi in trunco querno inventa fuit imago Beatæ Virginis*";—(3), from *cyd* and *bylchau*, the passes or defiles that meet here.

<sup>2</sup> Such as may often be met with in Montgomeryshire.



some ancient ones in the mother church. The work is entrusted to Mr. Arthur Baker.<sup>1</sup>

The School was erected in 1856, at a cost of £400, and is entirely supported by voluntary contributions.

CURATES IN CHARGE.

1811.—JONES, David	1848.—JOHNSON, William, B.A. <sup>4</sup>
1821.—ROBERTS, R. Ll. A., M.A. <sup>2</sup>	1852.—DAVIES, John, M.A. <sup>5</sup>
1830.—OWEN, Edwd. John, B.A. <sup>3</sup>	1864.—OWEN, David

1870.—ROBERTS, Herbert, B.A., Jesus College, Oxford, Scholar; Second Master of Tavistock School, 1862-7; Deac., 1867; Priest, 1868; curate of Llandinam, 1867.

LLANRHUDD.<sup>6</sup>

MANY circumstances combine to shew that this was the mother church of Ruthin, but that it was early eclipsed by the growing importance of its daughter *capella*. The relative importance of the two is fairly indicated in the *Taxatio* of 1291, which, however, makes no mention of any connexion between them. "Llanrud" is simply taxed at £5, "decima, 10s.," whilst a rich collegiate corporation already existed at Ruthin. When John de Grey, in 1310, refounded the latter, not only, it would seem, somewhat modifying its constitution, but also increasing its endowment by a large grant of lands, and by the tithes of Llanrhudd, he had first to obtain the consent of Sir Hugh, rector of this parish, who appears thenceforth to have become the head of both foundations, and to have taken his title from the more important one. Hence the *Valor Eccles.* of Henry VIII evidently includes Llanrhudd under Ruthin: "Ecclesia collegiata de Ruthyne cum rectoria ibidem, valet in spiritualibus £16:13:4." At the Reformation the collegiate church was dissolved, and its property passed into lay

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Baker remarks, in connexion with this church, "The specimens of Jacobean church-fittings in the churches of this diocese are peculiarly interesting on account of the beauty of the design and workmanship. Those I have found have been in the churches of Rhug, Gwyddelwern, Denbigh (altar table), Llanfair, Llanellidan (Transitional from Perpendicular), and Llanynys." It is much to be desired that in any restorations these features should be carefully preserved, not only as interesting historic memorials of the work then done, but also as valuable specimens of the art and workmanship of that period.

<sup>2</sup> R. Llangwyfan, 1830; R. Llangynhafal, 1857.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llanfair, D. C., 1848.

<sup>4</sup> T. C. D.; Second Master of Ruthin School, 1846; V. Llanbadrig, 1852; R. Llaniestyn, 1868; Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Bangor.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llanddulas, 1865.

<sup>6</sup> The "church of red sandstone," cf. Rhudd-ddin of Ruthin.



hands ; but when Dean Goodman, in 1590, established Christ's Hospital on the lines of the old foundation, he redeemed the impropriated tithes for its endowment ; and to it they have belonged ever since. Their joint value (Ruthin and Llanrhudd) has been commuted at £462 1s. The extent of this parish is 1,316 acres ; rated at £3,747 ; and its townships, two in number, Llanrhudd-uchaf and Llanrhudd-isaf ; the former of which is comprised within the limits of the borough of Ruthin. Population, 965. The cure is attached to the wardenship of Ruthin.

The church,<sup>1</sup> which bears the name of Meugan, a saint of the sixth century, consists of a single body, divided by a screen into chancel and nave. The chancel has a well carved altar-table, reredos, credence, and sedilia, and is floored with encaustic tiles. The seats are open, and accommodate two hundred and eighty-four, being a gain of ninety-eight on the previous pews. The windows, which have been renewed, are in their general character Perpendicular, and contain some memorial glass. The east window, of two lights, has medallions illustrative of Christ blessing little children, and the Last Supper. Another of three lights, on the north side, represents the Transfiguration, and is a memorial to Thomas Downward of Bathafarn Park, ob. 1859. Among the monuments, the most notable is one to John Thelwall of Bathafarn (ob. 1586) and Jane his wife (ob. 1585), who are represented in a kneeling posture, with their ten sons and four daughters behind them. A bust of Ambrose, the ninth son, who was steward to Lord Chancellor Verulam, and Yeoman of the Robe to James I and Charles Prince of Wales (ob. 1653), occupies a niche close by. There are also many others to the members of the same family, as also to Roberts of Llanrhydd House, Price of Rhiwlas, Jones of Gelligynan, Jones of Woodland and Cae'r groes, John Williams, M.P. for Macclesfield, a native of Ruthin, ob. 1855, etc. The roof of the church is of open timber, that of the chancel being more ornamented than the nave, and that of the porch very good.

The Free Church, erected in Rhôs Street about the year 1848, has just been purchased (1871) for £600, and Church of England services are now held in it.

Boys of this parish are admissible to the benefits of the Grammar School and the National School at Ruthin.

The sum of £82 : 14 : 3, Consolidated Charities,<sup>2</sup> formerly on mortgage on the Mold and Ruthin Turnpike Trust, is now in the North and South Wales Bank at Ruthin, pending a settlement of its application.

*Lost.*—A sum of two shillings per ann., left by Robert ap Edward, tanner, for the repair of the church ; and eight shillings a year left by Edward Griffith of Bwlch y Parc, in 1696, and paid out of that estate (now a part of the Llanbedr Hall estate) until about the year 1800.

<sup>1</sup> It was carefully restored in 1852, from the plans of Mr. Kennedy. Repairs of an earlier period are indicated by the date 1626 on a north window.

<sup>2</sup> The benefaction-table in the church gives the sum of £111 10s.

RUTHIN.<sup>1</sup>

THE "Capella St. Petri" erected here for the ease of those parishioners who gathered for protection and for commerce round the fortified walls of "Castell-Côch-yn-Gwernfor,"<sup>2</sup> soon outstripped, in the number of its members and the extent of its wealth, the little mother church of St. Meugan's at Llanrhudd; just as was the case, under much the same circumstances, at Denbigh, Oswestry, Beaumaris, and elsewhere. In the year 1291, as appears from the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas, there was already a large and flourishing collegiate establishment here, with its dean and numerous canons, as well as a resident ecclesiastical officer described as "the Official of Dyffryn Clwyd." Under two different archdeaconries, as already stated, and for reasons there suggested, we read, "Archidiaconat' de Meryonyd—

					Taxatio.		Decima.
"Benefic' offic' -	-	-	-	-	£5 6 8	...	£0 10 8
Beneficiu' decani	-	-	-	-	6 13 4	...	0 13 4
Eccl'ia S'ci Petri	-	-	-	-	5 6 8	...	0 10 8

And "In Archidiaconat' de Bangore et Decan' de Dyffryncloit :

"Canonica Decani	-	-	-	-	12 0 0	...	1 4 0
„ Archid' Bang'	-	-	-	-	12 13 4	...	1 5 4
„ Loryngh'	-	-	-	-	6 13 4	...	0 13 4
„ Henri Le Mestre	-	-	-	-	5 6 8	...	0 10 8
„ nuper Joh'is ap Gruffuth	-	-	-	-	5 6 8	...	0 10 8
„ Ith' ap Robt'	-	-	-	-	8 0 0	...	0 14 0
„ Ieu'n ap D'd	-	-	-	-	6 13 4	...	0 13 4

When, therefore, in 1310, John, son of Reginald de Grey, Lord of Ruthin, in the charter of his new foundation "declared that his town of Ruthin having become populous, he had thought fit to assign for divine worship the place and ground where the chapel had before been built, and to make the same a collegiate church, which should also be parochial, in which there should be seven priests to attend the divine praises, and to live in community on its revenues, under the direction of one to be presented by the patron, and approved by the diocesan, and the rector of Llanrhydd to find a priest to say mass daily in the chapel of the Castle of Ruthin,"<sup>3</sup> we may recognise, among the chief

<sup>1</sup> *Rhudd-din* means "the red fortress," as *Llan-rhudd* means "the red church"; both probably so called from the local sandstone of which they were built.

<sup>2</sup> *Castell Côch yn Gwernfor*, "the red castle in the great marsh," is the older name for the place. *Gwern-fechan*, "the little marsh," still denotes an outskirt of the town.

<sup>3</sup> *Goodman Memoirs*, p. 49.

features introduced, the conversion of the subject *capella* into the parochial church, the transfer of the tithes to it as the new head of the parish, and the bestowal of the patronage upon the new founder, in return, it may be supposed, for the large gifts with which he enriched it,—gifts which included not only the tithes of Llanrhudd, but also two hundred and five acres of land in his vills of *Rosmergan*<sup>1</sup> and *Rue*; to which others, distinguished by the names of the tenants, were afterwards added, most probably in 1315.

In order to carry out the above changes, John de Grey, according to Dugdale, first obtained the consent of Sir Hugh, the rector of Llanrhudd, and we may therefore conclude that either he or his successor became the first head of the new foundation.

Mr. Newcome, in his interesting *Memoirs of the Goodman Family*, has, in his extract from the *Taxatio*, an entry which I can nowhere find in the original, and one into which I suspect he himself was misled by reading Ruthin for *Prestholm*. His entry is, “Proventus Prioris de Ruthin 30 marks”;<sup>2</sup> a value which induces him to dilate on its importance. It is true there had been a priory here of the order of White Friars, and the name is still handed down in Prior Street and in an adjoining spot once called “the Prior’s Fishponds,” but little now is known of them. We shall not, however, be far wrong if we conclude that they came here, about this time, with the Greys, by whom they had first been introduced into England about 1250; and it is probable that they were connected very closely with, if not actually incorporated in, the new foundation of John de Grey, which appears henceforth to have been called indiscriminately the College, Collegiate or Parochial Church of Ruthin; and the head thereof, Provost, Rector, or Warden.<sup>3</sup> Leland’s assertion that there had been here a “celle of Bonhommes, which was afterwards translated into the parish church,”<sup>4</sup> can hardly be correct, as this order was not introduced into England until 1283, and no notice of its existence occurs in De Grey’s charter; but as it does imply the incorporation of some religious order, it rather confirms the suggestion made above. The name may have been deduced from a play upon the name of “Goodman” (*bon homme*), the restorer of the old foundation on a new basis. The *Valor Eccles.* gives the following account of the “Eccl’ia Collegiat’ de Ruthyn cu’ Rector’ ib’m” in 1535. “Valet in *temporalibus*, viz., in

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
“Reddit’ et firm’ p’ annu’ infra d’n’m de Ruthyn	-	23	2	0			
Terr’ d’nical’ ib’m p’ annu’ - - -	-	6	13	4			
P’quis’ cur’ ib’m co’ibus annis - - -	-	0	6	8			
Denar’ anti’ exa’ sec’am de Ruthyn recept’ p’ stipend’ presbiteri ad p’lit’ removabil’ ut dicit’r	-	3	6	8			
					33	8	8

<sup>1</sup> Qu., Rhos Meugan (the founder of the mother church), that portion of the town known as Rhôs Street?

<sup>2</sup> *Goodman Memoirs*, p. 39.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 41.

<sup>4</sup> *Itinerary*, iii, 97.



“ <i>Sp’ualib’</i> , viz., in				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Decimis granor’ et feni co’ib’ annis	-	-	-	10	0	0			
Decem’ lan’ agnell’ et lactual’ et aliis minutis decimis				2	6	8			
Decim’ molendin’ ib’m	-	-	-	1	0	0			
Oblacion’ ib’m co’ib’ annu’	-	-	-	6	6	8			
							16	13	4
							£50	2	0

“*Repris’* viz.,

Reddit’ resolut’ capital’ d’nis feod’ p’ annu’	-	-	2	0	0
Feod’ „ ballivi ib’m p’ ann’	-	-	0	10	0
					£2 10 0

Et valet clare co’ib’ annis £47 12s., viz. in

Temp’alib’	-	-	-	-	30	18	8
Sp’ualib’	-	-	-	-	16	13	4

X’ma inde £4 : 15 : 2½.”

From this we gather some interesting particulars not only as to the sources of income and their respective values, but also as to some important incidentals: *e. g.*, we learn (1) that there was a special church court (*curia*) for this deanery; (2), that there was a certain annual payment from the town exchequer to support a priest, who, however, was removable at will; and (3), that the old mill in Clwyd Street bore a cross on its eastern gable, not to imply that it had been a chapel connected either with the garrison or with one of the religious orders alluded to above, as some have imagined, but to indicate its connexion with the Collegiate Church.

After the Dissolution the lands (*temporalia*) belonging to this foundation were granted (4 Edward VI, A.D. 1551) to William Winlove and Richd. Fyld; and pensions were granted to the members of the College, four of whom were in receipt of them in 1553.<sup>1</sup> A portion of the alienated property, consisting of the site, precincts, and appurtenances of the late College or Collegiate Church of St. Peter, the rectory and chapel of Ruthin and Llanrhudd, with their glebe lands and tithes, was afterwards bought back by Gabriel Goodman, D.D., Dean of Westminster, a native of this town; who having, in 1590, obtained letters patent from Queen Elizabeth enabling him to found a hospital for the maintenance of one preacher and twelve poor persons, with power to hold and purchase lands to the extent of £100 a year, and to incorporate the same under the title of “The President and Warden of Christ’s Hospital in Ruthin,”—the former of whom was to be the diocesan, the Bishop of Bangor and his successors; and the latter a minister or priest, and a preacher, and at least a Master of Arts, to be appointed, after his own and his nephew’s death, by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, and in their default by the Dean and Chapter of Bangor,—transferred to them thus incorporated, as an endowment for the said Hospital, the property he had so redeemed. That por-

<sup>1</sup> Tanner’s *Notitia*, 708.



tion of it which is included in the commuted tithes of Ruthin and Llanrhudd is valued at £462 1s. The proportion which in 1837 fell to the Warden, after the deduction of payments, was only £72:19:4; but by a new scheme of the Charity Commissioners, dated 1862, the Warden's income, derived from this and the other sources of the Hospital endowment, has been fixed at £300,<sup>1</sup> with a house of residence called "the Cloisters,"<sup>2</sup> formerly the dwelling of the collegiate clergy.

The church, St. Peter's,<sup>3</sup> was built originally, as we have seen, and as some of its features testify, about the year 1300, and consisted of a chancel, which formed the collegiate portion; and a nave, which formed the parochial; with a tower at their intersection. Churchyard (1520-1604) thus describes it in his *Worthines of Wales*,—

"A church there is in Wrythen at this day,  
Wherein Lord Grey that once was Earle of Kent  
In tombe of stone amid the chauncel lay;  
But once removed, as worldly matters went,  
And in a wall so layd as now he lies,  
Right hand of queere, full plaine before your eyes.  
An ankres,<sup>4</sup> too, that neere that wall did dwell,  
With trim wrought worke in wall is buried well."

Symonds,<sup>5</sup> again, in giving a description of its heraldic details in 1645, enumerates these features: "East window, chancel, old. A shield" (*blank*). "Under an arch, south wall of the belfray, betweene church and chancel, the statue. Lowest north window, chancel, old. West window, church, old and faire. South window over the doore. Monuments of Parry and of Jones." From which we gather that the church still stood in its early form. Soon after this, however, owing probably to injuries received during the Rebellion, the chancel appears to have fallen into ruins, and to have been taken down, and the materials used in the construction of the old Town Hall, which was erected in 1663, and pulled down in 1863, on which occasion many portions of the old church and its carved work were discovered worked up in its walls and foundations. As this plan does not seem to have had the effect of stopping the progress of decay, we find that in 1714-1715 a brief was issued to collect contributions for its restoration, the damage being estimated at £3,128 and upwards.<sup>6</sup> How much

<sup>1</sup> If there be a sufficient surplus in the funds, this may rise to a sum not exceeding £400.

<sup>2</sup> Archdeacon Newcome laid out about £1,500 on its improvement, 1804; and another £400 in 1830-36.

<sup>3</sup> In Llanrhudd there was a well, formerly in high repute for its medicinal efficacy, dedicated to the same apostle.

<sup>4</sup> For further instances of female recluses, see under *Efenechtyd*, p. 409.

<sup>5</sup> *Diary of Richard Symonds*, Camden Soc., 1859, p. 256.

<sup>6</sup> *Clocaenog Register*, *sub ann.* 1715.

was thus obtained, and what was done with it, is not clear; but it is probable that it was now the upper part of the tower was rebuilt, the south aisle added, and the chancel transferred to it. About the same time, "the west end being ruined, was rebuilt at the expense of Sir William Williams, Bart.; and Watkin Williams-Wynne, Esq., his son and heir by Dame Jane his wife, daughter and heiress of Edward Thelwall of Plasyward, Esquire, MDCCLXII."<sup>1</sup> In 1810 the nave and north aisle were raised to the level of the chancel. The following year an organ was presented to the church by Fred. West, Esq. Builders, Flight and Robson. Cost, £300. In 1812 the parishioners agreed to relinquish the old singing-gallery at the east end of the north aisle, now become useless to the singers in consequence of the erection of the organ-loft (which was at the west end of the south aisle) for the accommodation of the boarders of the school, the Head Master incurring half the expense of erecting the west gallery in the north aisle in consideration thereof." In 1823 the north gallery was added; in 1824 the vestry built, at the expense of the warden, at the east end of the north aisle; and in 1830 six new bells were bought by subscription, in lieu of the five previous ones, one of which was given to Llanfwrog Church.

On All Saints' Day, 1859, the church was reopened after an extensive restoration, effected at a cost of about £3,000, under the superintendence of Mr. R. Kyrke Penson. Externally, the upper part of the tower was taken down, and a broach-spire imposed, rising to a height of 180 feet from the ground; high pitched roofs substituted for the flat leads and parapets; Decorated windows<sup>2</sup> inserted throughout, instead of the plain Italian ones; the chancel window opened; the vestry taken down, and a south porch erected. Internally, the galleries which ran round the whole of the north aisle and the west end of the south one were taken down; the pews replaced with open seats;<sup>3</sup> the chancel furnished with sedilia, and suitably arranged; the easternmost bay of the north aisle screened off for the organ and choir; and the base of the tower converted into a vestry; and a new font, Perpendicular, with foliated panels, added in lieu of the older one, which is buried in a vault beneath it. The most handsome feature in the church is the elaborate Perpendicular roof of the north aisle, which is divided into panels, and ornamented with nearly five hundred different devices, legends,<sup>4</sup> heraldic emblems, etc. It is said to have been constructed by Henry VII after his purchase of the

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<sup>1</sup> Tablet on exterior of west wall.

<sup>2</sup> The masonry of those on the south side was the gift of Mr. F. R. West, M.P. The glass (by Powell) subscribed for.

<sup>3</sup> There was one exception, a pew within the altar-rails belonging to Cerrigllwydion, which became the subject of a vexatious and expensive lawsuit. It was not removed till 1867!

<sup>4</sup> Among the legends are, "Jesu, mercy"; "Mater Maria, ora pro nobis" "Lady, help," etc.

lordship from the Earl of Kent. The earliest architectural details appear to be the lantern-arches of the tower; the two principal ones, east and west, springing from clustered shafts with foliated capitals; those of the north and south were blank, and only added for structural effect; an early piscina on the nave side of the western arch, indicative of a former altar; and a handsomely carved bench in the north aisle.

Of the monuments, the first place must be given, "*honoris gratia*," to the generous benefactor of this his native town, Dr. Gabriel Goodman, Dean of Westminster, whose bust has this inscription beneath it: "*Memoriæ Gabrielis Goodman, Sacr. Theol. Doct. et dignissimi Westmonast. Eccles. Decani, qui in hoc oppido solo natali HOSPITALE pauperibus sublevandis SCHOLAMQUE pueris instituendis pie fundavit. Obiit in Christo xvii Junii MDCI.*" Two portrait-brasses on the north wall depict respectively, (1), his father, Edward Goodman, ob. 1560; and (2), his father and mother with their five sons and three daughters. Monumental tablets commemorate — Thelwall of Plasyward, 1586; Dr. Williams, Warden, 1621; Gabriel Goodman, Counsellor at Law, 1673; Roger Mostyn, 1712; Ellis Roberts, M.A., vicar of Llanynys, 1844; and Joseph Ablett, 1848. And there are handsome inlaid crosses to the memory of Mary Walker, 1854; and of Archdeacon Newcome, Warden of Ruthin for forty-seven years. Of painted glass there are—the chancel-window of four lights, representing twelve incidents in the life of our Lord, with the Ascension in the head-tracery, the gift of Mr. Jesse of Llandedr Hall, and the work of Wailes of Newcastle; a two-light window on the north side, by Powell, memorial to Thomas Maurice, ob. 1838, representing the typical baptism of the Old Testament and the preparatory baptism of St. John; and one of the west windows, put up this year, to the memory of John Spier Hughes, who died in 1868,—subjects, the Crucifixion in the centre, and the Virgin and St. Peter in the side-lights: the glass by Ward and Hughes.

A Sunday evening lecture was founded here by Mr. Simon Thelwall of Gray's Inn, who left in 1670 a rent-charge of £20 on the Llanbedr Hall estate for that object.

The Free Church on the Llanbedr road, and in the parish of Llanrhudd, as already stated, has this year been purchased for the service of the National Church.

The National School, to hold seventy boys and sixty girls, was erected in Borthyn, for the joint benefit of this and Llanfwrog parishes, and in the year 1849 a new and much larger one was built in its stead.

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## CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.

THIS Hospital was founded, as we have seen, in 1590, by Dr. Gabriel Goodman, Dean of Westminster, for a warden, ten brethren, and two sisters; for whose governance the statutes<sup>1</sup> were drawn up by himself; for whose residence he purchased the cloisters with their precincts, and built twelve almshouses; and for whose endowment he redeemed the tithes of Ruthin and Llanrhudd. This was increased (1) by Sir Robert Salusbury of Bachymbyd, who gave, in 1599, lands in Rhyd-onen township (7 a. 1 r. 33 p.), and a rent-charge of £2 on Ddól Rhyd-onen; (2), by Rice Williams of Eyarth, the founder of Jesus Chapel, who in 1629 gave a rent-charge of £4 on his Eyarth property; (3), by Peter Davies, who in 1650 gave the Talysarn tenement; (4), by Dr. Hugh Pugh, Warden, who gave a third part of the rental of Hir-ivyn in Llanbedr (the other two-thirds to be divided between Llanbedr and Llanfwrog); (5), by Abel Jones, who left £50 in 1736; (6), Mrs. Dorothy Myddelton, £10 in 1748; (7), Mrs. Grace Parry, £10 for the two almswomen; (8), by John Madocks, Esq., of Fron Yw, who in 1795 gave £400 in the 3 per Cents.,—exchanged, in 1816, for a mortgage<sup>2</sup> paying 5 per cent.; and (9) by £200 (*minus* £20 legacy duty) given by John Spier Hughes in 1830, and invested in 1831-32 in a cottage and garden near the churchyard.<sup>3</sup>

By a new scheme of the Charity Commissioners, dated 21 July, 1863, for the management of the "Hospital, Grammar School, and Exhibition Charities of Ruthin," new Governors were appointed,<sup>4</sup> and fresh regulations drawn out; the houses ordered to be reconstructed, which was done in 1865; the stipend of the Warden fixed; and the payment to each of the pensioners or almspeople settled at six shillings per week, or its equivalent.

Besides the Hospital there are other charities of great value belonging to the town, the chief of which are those of Dr. Godfrey Goodman, Bishop of Gloucester, and nephew of the Dean, who by his will, dated 17th Jan., 1655, left (1) a tenement in Yale, called "Tyddyn Goodman" (59 a. 3 r. 12 p.), increased by an allotment under the Llanarmon Enclosure Act to 104 a. 22 p.; and now let at £48, to be "weekly given to the relief of the poor of Ruthyn"; and (2) two tenements

<sup>1</sup> Charity Report, 1837, p. 93.

<sup>2</sup> This amounts to £639 : 19 : 3; interest, £31 : 19 : 6.

<sup>3</sup> Of two bequests enumerated among the benefactions, £25 left by Mary Thelwall was lent on interest, and lost; and £90, by Mrs. Susannah Mostyn, was never paid by her representatives.

<sup>4</sup> Six official and eight non-official. The six official are, the Lord Bishops of St. Asaph and Bangor, the Dean of St. Asaph, the Mayor of Ruthin, the Warden, and the Head Master.



called "Coed mawr" and "Tydu," in the parish of Llanberis, containing 766 a. 2 r. 11 p. (then worth £40 per ann., but now £368:15), for the two objects of apprenticing two poor boys, and of enabling some gentleman who shall desire to travel, to spend two months in each of these countries,—Germany, Italy, France, and Spain; preference being given to his own kindred, or to such as have been brought up at Ruthin School. As it was found impracticable to maintain a traveller on the £20 per ann., it was ordered by the Court of Chancery, in 1722, that it should be paid for the maintenance of Godfrey Goodman, the heir at law of the testator, who was then an exhibitioner of Jesus College, Oxford; and ever since that time about one half of the income continued to be paid for exhibitions from the School to the Universities. By the scheme of 1863 it is ordered that of the rental of these two estates, £30 be paid to the trustees of the town charities; £70 for binding out apprentices, or otherwise advancing them in the world; £60 set apart for the Exhibition endowment; and the residue to be carried to the account of the Hospital endowment.

The town charities already referred to embrace—

£103:6:8 Consolidated Charities,<sup>1</sup> on mortgage, Turnpike Trust.

Rent-charge by Peter MOYLE, 1618, on Fforddlas in Llanbedr, £2:12.

Rent-charge on the Llanbedr Hall estate, by Simon THELWALL, 1670, £5:4.

Rental of land in Bortheyn and Llanrhudd, 3 a. 1 r. 20 p., bought in 1731 for £140, in equal moieties of money left for schooling and for distribution,<sup>2</sup> with cottages built thereon.

*Lost*,<sup>3</sup> probably by Statute of Mortmain, a rent-charge of £2:12, by Mrs. Parry, 1786.

#### WARDENS.

##### A. *On the Old Foundation.*<sup>4</sup>

1353.—NICHOLAS DE BLECHLEY<sup>5</sup>

1391.—GETHIN,<sup>6</sup> .....

1512.—GREYSLEY, John

1535.—STRYNGAR, John, A.M.<sup>7</sup>

1541.—HUGO AP EVAN.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Abel Jones and Robert Davies, 1736; David Francis, 1731; and Sir William Myddelton,—each £20; Mrs. Dorothy Myddelton, £10; Anon., £8:6:8; and Mrs. Mary Wynne (1736), £5.

<sup>2</sup> In 1729 the Rev. R. Wynne, £40; Mrs. Jones, £30; Mrs. Jane Price, £20. In 1728 Mr. John Williams and Mrs. Myddelton, each £10; Mr. Thos. Foulkes and Mr. Langford, £5; Offertory, £20.

<sup>3</sup> A bequest of £40 by Robert Myddelton, £20 by Jane Davies, and three other small ones, appear in the accounts.

<sup>4</sup> *Memoir of Dean and Bishop Goodman*, p. 41.

<sup>5</sup> Prior de Ruthnet. Qu., Ruthin et (Llanrhudd).

<sup>6</sup> Prior Rector.

<sup>7</sup> Provost.

<sup>8</sup> Warden.

B. *On the New Foundation.*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1590.—THELWALL, Eubule, A.M. <sup>1</sup> | 1668.—PUGH, Hugh, D.D. <sup>7</sup>        |
| 1594.—PRICE, John                         | 1682.—LLOYD, John, A.M. <sup>8</sup>       |
| 1599.—GRIFFITH, Jasper <sup>2</sup>       | 1713.—CONWAY, Benjamin, A.M. <sup>9</sup>  |
| 1606.—WILLIAMS, John, D.D. <sup>3</sup>   | 1748.—JONES, Edward, A.M. <sup>10</sup>    |
| 1621.—BAYLEY, John, D.D. <sup>4</sup>     | 1784.—PARRY, William, M.A., <sup>11</sup>  |
| 1642.—LLOYD, David, D.C.L. <sup>5</sup>   | 1804.—NEWCOME, Richard, M.A. <sup>12</sup> |
| 1663.—LLOYD, John, A.M. <sup>6</sup>      |  |

1851.—JONES, Bulkeley Owen, M.A., Brasenose College, Oxford; third class in Litt. Hum.; B.A., 1846; Deacon, 1847; Priest, 1848; curate of Beaumaris, 1848; Rural Dean of Dyffryn Clwyd, 1870.<sup>13</sup>

## THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

THIS School was founded by Gabriel Goodman, D.D., Dean of Westminster, the founder of Christ's Hospital also in this his native town; the intimate friend of Dr. William Morgan, the first translator of the Bible into Welsh;<sup>14</sup> the patron of the learned Camden; and himself a scholar of no mean order, the translator of the first Epistle to the

<sup>1</sup> Brother to Edward Thelwall, the tutor of Lord Herbert of Chirbury. Buried here 1594.

<sup>2</sup> Chaplain to Bancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury.

<sup>3</sup> R. Bangor-iscoed. Appointed Warden by Bishop Goodman.

<sup>4</sup> Son to Lewis Bayley, Bishop of Bangor; chaplain in ordinary to King James I; Preb. Llanfair, 1617; R. Llandyrnog.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llangynhafal and V. Llanfair, D. C.; Dean of St. Asaph, 1660.

<sup>6</sup> Brother of Bishop Humphrey Lloyd of Bangor; R. Marchwiall, 1641; Preb. of Llanfair in St. Asaph Cathedral, 1660; S. R. Llansannan and Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1666.

<sup>7</sup> Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1680; R. Llanbedr and Llanfwrog, 1668.

<sup>8</sup> V. Estyn *alias* Hope, 1680; V. Llanynys, 1683. <sup>9</sup> V. Northop, 1717.

<sup>10</sup> R. Llangeinwen and Llangaffo. Mr. Jones having claimed a beneficial interest in the tithes of Llanelidan, a decree in Chancery was made Aug. 15, 1751, by which the claim was disallowed. (Appendix G.)

<sup>11</sup> Head Master of the School, 1768; V. Llanfair, 1776; R. Llanfwrog, 1794; Rural Dean.

<sup>12</sup> Nephew of Mr. Parry. R. Llanfwrog, 1804; Canon of Bangor, 1821; R. Clocaenog, 1829-34; Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1834; V. Llanrhaiaadr, D. C., 1851. Author of *An Account of the Castle and Town of Ruthin*, *An Account of the Castle and Town of Denbigh*, and of the *Memoirs of Dean and Bishop Goodman* (Ruthin, 1825), to which I am indebted for much of this account.

<sup>13</sup> Mr. Jones furnished the account of St. Peter's Church for the *Handbook of the Vale of Clwyd*, p. 137-41.

<sup>14</sup> "Gabriel Goodman, Westmonasteriensis Decanus, vir re et nomine valde

Corinthians in the version known as the "Bishops' Bible." A contemporary bard and neighbour, Simwnt Vychan of Llanelidan, has fixed the date at 1574;<sup>1</sup> but the grant of one of the comportionary rectories of Llanelidan, for its endowment, was not obtained until 1595, and did not become available for some time afterwards,<sup>2</sup> the Dean during that interval supporting the masters at his own cost. By this grant (37 Eliz.) the moiety or comportion of the rectory held by Richard Parry was vested in the President and Warden of Christ's Hospital in Ruthin, "ad usum, manutencionem et supportacionem Didascali sive Ludimagistri et Hypodidascali in Schola Grammaticali... juxta statuta et ordinationes Fundatoris facta seu facienda." Of this moiety two thirds were to be paid, according to the statutes, to the master, and the other third to the usher. These statutes, drawn up by the founder, and said to bear a great similarity to those of Westminster School, are very full and minute, and are given at length in the *Memoirs*, under the title, "Statuta Scholæ Litterariæ in villa de Ruthyn, ad Dei gloriam et Ecclesiæ Reipublicæque utilitatem collocatæ." They treat of the requirements and duties of the masters, the method and course of teaching, the rules of discipline and good order, the election, stipend, absence, and dismissal of the masters, the payments to be made by the scholars, and the prayers to be used in the School. It may be interesting to quote a few of these, as showing the founder's intention:

"*De qualitate Didascali et Hypodidascali.*—Statuimus et volumus ut Didascalus sit vir bonæ existimationis et famæ, major viginti quinque annis, Artium Magister aut Doctor Grammatices gradu et qui totus in id incumbat ut discipulos suos et bonis literis et bonis moribus ornatos efficiat.

"Hypodidascalus similiter sit vir bonus, Baccalaureus Artium, aptus

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bonus, omnique pietati deditissimus, quæ interpretatus fueram relegendi ita mihi adfuit assiduus ut et labore et consilio me plurimum adjuverit, suorum librorum plurimos mihi dedit, reliquorum liberum concessit usum atque totum annum, dum sub prælo liber iste erat, collegis humanissime assentientibus, hospitio me accepit." (Dr. Morgan's Preface.)

1

"Troes y Deon ddaioni

Tra von iaith, at ein trev ni;

Ysgol rad, ni sigla'r un

A'i thraethu 'n rhwym wrth Ruthun:

Diau, rhoir am oedran hon

Duwiol gof am y Deon:

Oed Duw yna 'n cyttunaw

At riv yw *pymtheccant* draw,

(Hof dreigl) a *phedwar* ugain,

Onid chwe blwydd, rhwydd yw 'r rhai 'n."

(Simwnt Vychan a 'e cant. in Newcome's *Memoirs*. Appendix C.)

Probably in the year 1604, when Dr. Parry, the then holder thereof, was promoted to the see of St. Asaph.



ad pueros pro officii ac loci sui ratione docendos, non minor quam viginti annos natus, et qui in discipulis suis erudiendis assiduam sedulitatem et industriam ponat.

“Sit uterque horum teneræ ætati exemplum omnium virtutum, sintque cœlibes.

“Ut cultus Dei potissimum celebretur, volumus ut diebus profestis, primo mane sub horam sextam, ad pulsum campanæ, in Templo conveniant, tam Præceptores nisi legitime impediti sint, quam discipuli in oppido commorantes, ibique una publicè Deo preces fundant. Hypodidascalus mane et vesperi in Schola preces recitato vel ab alio recitari curato.

“*De quibusdam ad scholasticam disciplinam et eutaxiam pertinentibus.*—Scholastici in Pago Ruthyn commorantes diebus profestis in aurora a Templo recte ad scholam eunto, compositeque ac modeste bini incedunt.

“Dominicis ac festis diebus mox, ubi campana ad publicas preces sonuerit, in scholam pueri conveniunt et inde ad Templum seriatim et bini incedant, Didascalum vel Hypodidascalum sequentes.

“In classes superiores adscripti Latine aut Græce in schola loquuntur, collocati autem in inferioribus Anglice, qui secus faxit ceditur aut custos esto.

“Nullus puer admittitur in hanc Scholam si sit major quam sexdecim annos natus et ne sit ibi jus commorandi post decimum nonum annum.”

A dispute having arisen, about the middle of the last century, between the Warden (Mr. Edw. Jones) and the Head Master (Mr. Thos. Hughes) as to the extent of the above grant of Llanelidan, owing to the Warden having put in a claim<sup>1</sup> to a beneficial interest in all the surplus tithes of the School moiety beyond £30,—i. e. £20 to the Head Master, and £10 to the second,—it was ordered by a decree in Chancery not only that the claim was invalid, but also that certain payments made according to the founder's statutes—of forty shillings each to the poor of Llanelidan, to sermons preached therein, and to a school-repair fund—must cease, as inconsistent with the original grant. The commuted value of these tithes is £300, of which £200 were paid to the Head, and £100 to the Second Master.

In the rules and regulations made by the Governors, and approved by the Charity Commissioners, 23 March, 1866, it is laid down, among others,—

“1. That every boy, being the son of a resident inhabitant of the borough of Ruthin, or the parish of Llanelidan, shall pay twenty-five shillings per quarter, and every other boy fifty shillings per quarter; but that this scale may be varied, and in special cases of either poverty or merit, wholly remitted at the discretion of the Governors.

“2. That of these capitation-fees, one moiety to be paid to the

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<sup>1</sup> Resting on what are termed “Supplementary Statutes,” the validity and authenticity of which were disallowed.



Head Master in augmentation of his salary ; the other to be applicable to the general income of the School.

"3. The appointment of assistant masters to be in the Head Master ; but subject to the approval of the Governors, and limited to members of the Church of England.

"4. The religious instruction to be given the scholars according to the principles and doctrines of the Church of England. The general instruction to comprise the Greek and Latin languages, mathematics, algebra, arithmetic, practical geometry, English grammar and literature, general history, geography, and writing ; and whenever the available funds shall be sufficient, the following additional subjects,—the French and German languages, drawing, land-mensuration and surveying, and the elements of the natural sciences."

A new scheme is about to be issued by the Endowed Schools' Commissioners, and it is probable that this School will be selected as the Greek or Highest School for north-east Wales.

The present schoolroom was rebuilt, in 1700, by subscriptions amounting to £247:19:3. A further sum of £582:2:4, also raised by subscription,<sup>1</sup> was expended on its improvement, and that of the house, in 1831-2 ; and in 1867 another sum of £1,673:14:2<sup>2</sup> was laid out for the same purpose. The schoolhouse was built in 1742,<sup>3</sup> and cost, according to the benefaction table in the school, £484:17:6.

There are Exhibitions arising from the two following sources :

1. GODFREY GOODMAN, Bishop of Gloucester, nephew of the founder, by his will (dated 17th January, 1655) gave to his native town of Ruthin a tenement in Yale and two tenements in Carnarvonshire. The rental of these two, then worth £40 per ann., he divided into two moieties,—the one moiety to be spent annually on a trustees' dinner (£5) and apprenticing poor lads ; "and for the other £20, I desire that choice may be made of some gentleman who shall desire to travel ; and that he, together with good security, shall undertake, within the compass of two years, to live two months in Germany, two months in Italy, two months in France, and two months in Spain. I desire that mine own kindred might be chosen before others, or such as have had their breeding in the School of Ruthin, or such as have been born in Denbighshire ; and, for want of those, such as have been born within the Principality of Wales ; and that the house of Talacre, in Flintshire, might be preferred before others ; and in the choice of the gentleman I desire that no relation should be had to his poverty, but *pulchrior, doctior, nobilior, cæteris paribus anteferendus*."

<sup>1</sup> Of this sum, the Head Master (Mr. Williams) contributed £184 ; the Bishop of Bangor (Bethel), £100 ; and the Warden (Newcome), £50.

<sup>2</sup> Of this, £290:16 were subscriptions, £1,000 borrowed on mortgage, £248:11:3 from sale of Consols, and £47:16:3 mineral rents.

<sup>3</sup> In the building anterior to the present schoolroom was a *cubiculum*, intended for the Master's residence, who must have been unmarried. There is no record left of the original construction.

In 1722 Bishop Goodman's charities were before the Court of Chancery, and it was then ordered that, "as to the £20 to maintain a traveller, the same being now found impracticable, it is proposed that the sum remaining, after the disposal of the said £20 per ann. in putting out apprentices, be paid for the maintenance of Godfrey Goodman, the heir at law of the testator (who is now an Exhibitioner of Jesus College, Oxford), for his support." From this time downwards this application of the money seems to have been adopted, for in 1744, out of a rental of £40 per ann., £20 was paid in two Exhibitions of £10 each; and in 1800, out of the rental of £80, two sums of £22:10 each were paid to two Exhibitioners. Of late years these Exhibitions have been of the value of £25 per ann. each, tenable for three years, and given by the Trustees after a special examination of the candidates eligible.

By the decree of the Charity Commissioners, 24th December, 1862, with the rental of the estate at £368:15,<sup>1</sup> it is ordered that £60 only be set apart for the Exhibition fund, £70 to the apprenticing fund, and the rest carried on to the Hospital endowment.

2. The Rev. EDWARD LLOYD of Ripple, Kent, by will dated 14 Feb. 1740, left four-fifths of his residuary estate in trust, to be applied for the benefit of the School. With this money (£909:10, and £350 borrowed on mortgages, and repaid out of the estate in 1748), the Trustees bought a messuage in Bistre, near Mold, called "Carreg-lwyd," containing 69 a. 1 r. 8 p., subsequently increased by an allotment on Mold Mountain to 78 a. 3 r. 28 p. The rental of this estate, amounting at that time (1745) to £43 per ann., was ordered by the Court of Chancery to be "yearly or otherwise distributed for the benefit and encouragement of the School, to such poor boys or young men, who shall be educated there for five years at least, as the Trustees shall appoint (not exceeding £12 yearly to any one person), having a primary regard to the relations of the benefactors of the said charity, if any offer; and in the next place, to poorest boys or young men, and best scholars, as and for Exhibitions towards the education of such young men at such of the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge, for so long as the Trustees for the time being shall think fit, but not longer than they shall have respectively arrived to the standing of a Bachelor of Arts." By a decree dated 23 June, 1823, the Trustees were allowed to raise the Exhibitions from £12 to as high as £25 each; and from the year 1824 their value has been £20 or £25, according to the funds. The present rental of the estate is £100 per ann., in addition to which there is the interest of £180 on mortgage, arising from the sale of timber thereon in 1797, and £226:16:11 stock, and a mineral dead-rent of £25; raising the total from this source to £140:12:2 per ann.

As to the two next items, boys from this School enjoy a preference to the first, and once had a preferential claim to the other.

<sup>1</sup> The opening of slate-quarries on the estate has been the cause of this increased value.

3. RICHARD PARRY, D.D., Bishop of St. Asaph, obiit 1623, bequeathed by his will a tenement in Erbistocke to his son, on trust, to pay therefrom either “£100 for the purchase of lands for the maintenance of a poor scholar in Jesus College in Oxon.”; or “£6 a year to Edward Edwards, now scholar of the said College; and successively to the poor scholar who hath been by me during my life, or shall be by the Principal and Fellows of the said College, after my death, elected out of the diocese of St. Asaph, or the town of Ruthin, for ever; and my will and desire is, that one of my kindred, and a minister’s son, be preferred before another, *cæteris paribus*.”

4. JOHN GWYNNE, LL.D., Prebendary of Llanfair in Bangor Cathedral, and rector of Llanrhaidr, by his will (13th Elizabeth), left a rent-charge of £40 per ann. on his property—now part of the Wynn-stay estates—to found three fellowships and six scholarships in St. John’s College, Cambridge, with preference to candidates born in the following places in their order,—the parishes of Llanfair and Llanrhaidr, the commotes of Nantconway and Maenan, the counties of Carnarvon, Denbigh, Merioneth. The scholars, under the same conditions, from the School of Bangor. By an indenture made soon after, the fellowships were reduced to two, and the scholarships to six; and by another indenture, made in 1650, between the heirs of J. Wynn and the College, it was covenanted that Dr. Gwynn’s fellowship should be suspended; but that the three scholars should be chosen out of the schools of Bangor and Ruthin, and two of them be elected into foundation-fellowships for ever. Dean Clough is said to have been the last so elected.

As, unfortunately, no record appears to have been kept of the old scholars, or, if kept, has been lost, it is impossible to ascertain the names of all the distinguished men who have been educated here. The following, however, are transcribed from a tablet set up in the school: “*Quo mortuis sit honos, quo vivis incitamentum,*” and beginning with the well-remembered words,—“*En vobis discipuli Ruthenenses proponuntur nomina (de multis pauca) virorum qui post pueritiam in hac Schola exactam, optime de Literis, de Republica, de Ecclesia, meriti eximium sibi decus et gloriam solidam peperere.*”

“Johannes Davies, S.T.P., Dictionarii Cymraici celeberrimi auctor eruditissimus.<sup>1</sup>

“Johannes Williams, S.T.P., Archiep. Ebor., necnon Angliæ summus Cancellarius.<sup>2</sup>

“Johannes Wynne, S.T.P., Episcopus Assaph.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Davies, rector of Mallwyd and Prebendary of Faenol in St. Asaph Cathedral, in addition to his famous Latin-Welsh Grammar and Dictionary, assisted both Dr. Morgan and Bishop Parry in their versions of the Welsh Bible.

<sup>2</sup> *The Life of Archbishop Williams* has been written by Bishop Hacket (London, 1693); Ambrose Phillips (Cambridge, 1700). See also Wood’s *Athenæ Oxon.*, and Williams’ *Eminent Welshmen*.

<sup>3</sup> Lady Margaret’s Professor of Divinity, Oxford, and Prebendary of Wor-



"Josias Tucker, S.T.P., Decan. Glocestr., scriptor de rebus politicis perspicacissimus.<sup>1</sup>

"Lloyd Kenyon, Baro Kenyon, Summus Angliæ Justiciarius ; in Scaccario Regis Baro Summus.<sup>2</sup>

"Ricardus Richards.<sup>3</sup>

"Henricus Owen, A.M., auctor in theologia præstantissimus.<sup>4</sup>

"Johannes Jones, A.M., Archidiacon. Merion., Bamptonianus apud Oxonienses Concionator."<sup>5</sup>

To these may be added others who, less eminent it may be, have yet added not a little to the reputation of the School, *e. g.*,—

David Lloyd, A.M., Prebendary of Faenol, author of *Church Worthies, State Worthies, Memories* (see p. 247 *suprà*).

Richard Wynne, A.M., author of a critical and explanatory edition of the New Testament, in two volumes.

Evan Lloyd, A.M., of Frondderw ; V. Llanfair, D. C. ; a talented English poet, etc.

John Humphreys Parry, a learned antiquary ; author of *The Cambrian Plutarch* ; editor of *The Cambro-Briton, The Transactions of the London Cymrodorion*, etc.

Richard Newcome, M.A., Archdeacon of Merioneth and Warden of Ruthin ; author of *An Account of the Castle and Town of Ruthin* ; ditto of *Denbigh* ; *Memoirs of Dean and Bishop Goodman*, etc.<sup>6</sup>

John Williams, M.A., *Ab Ithel* ; author of *The Traditionary Annals of the Cymry, Ecclesiastical Antiquities of the Cymry* ; originator and

cester, 1705 ; Principal of Jesus College, 1712 ; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1715 ; Bishop of Wells, 1727. *Suprà*, pp. 133, 231.

<sup>1</sup> Dean Tucker's published writings embrace not only political but also ecclesiastical subjects, such as *An Apology for the Church of England* ; *Sermons* ; *The Difficulties of the Trinitarian, Arian, and Socinian Systems*, etc.

<sup>2</sup> Attorney-General and Chief Justice of Chester, 1782 ; Master of the Rolls, 1784 ; Chief Justice of the King's Bench, 1788.

<sup>3</sup> Michel Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford ; Chief Justice of Chester, 1813 ; Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, 1817.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Owen's more important writings embraced *Harmonia Trigonometrica*, 1748 ; *Observations on the Four Gospels*, 1764 ; the Boyle Lectures for 1773, on *The Intent and Propriety of the Scripture Miracles* ; *Critica Sacra*, 1774 ; *Collatio Codicis Cottoniani Geneseos*, 1778, etc.

<sup>5</sup> Subject, *The Moral Tendency of Divine Revelation*.

<sup>6</sup> Newcome was only part of his time at this School ; but as much of his after interest in it and the neighbourhood may have been partially due to this early as well as his later connexion with it, I venture to include his name in the list. Among others who began their school-life here may also be named John Hughes, M.A., of Oriel, grandson of a former Head Master of that name, and father of the author of *Tom Brown* ; Dr. John Bull, Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, and Archdeacon of Barnstaple ; Rev. H. Holland Edwards, Prebendary of Westminster, and founder of St. Mary's Church, Llanrwst, etc.



joint editor of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, and editor of *Y Gododin*, *The Grammar of Edeyrn Dafod aur*, *The Cambrian Journal*, *Clôch y Llan*, *Baner y Groes*, etc.

Richard Perryn, Baron of the Exchequer.

John Lloyd, Chief Justice of the Carmarthen circuit.

Sir Thomas Maddock, Secretary to the Indian Government.

J. M. Wainwright, Bishop of Western New York.

Dr. Cotton, Dean of Chester.

Dr. Edwards, Archdeacon of Brecon.

Henry Parry, editor of Dr. Davies' *Antiquæ Linguae Britannicæ Rudimenta*.

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#### HEAD MASTERS.<sup>1</sup>

1574.—PRICE, John. Probably the Warden of 1594.

——— GOODMAN, Hugh.

1595.—PARRY, Richard, A.M., Dean of Bangor, 1599; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1604.

1599.—GRIFFITH, Robert.

1607.—PARRY, Gabriel, A.M., nephew of Bishop Parry; S. R. Llanrhaidr-yn-Mochnant, 1608; V. Henllan, 1609; V. Abergele, 1613; S. R. Llansannan, 1616; S. R. Llansantffraid yn Mechain, 1617; R. Llangynhafal and Precentor of Bangor, 1632.

1609.—LLOYD, L. Previously Under-Master and curate of Llanrhudd.

1615.—JONES, John, A.M.

1626.—LANGFORD, Wm., A.M., Hart Hall, Oxford, had been Under-Master for two years; R. Heneglwys, 1630; V. Welshpool, 1632; R. Llanerfyl, 1637; Canon of St. Asaph, 1639; S. R. Llanfor, 1644. Ejected by the Committee of Sequestrators, 1650; restored to the vicarage of Pool, 1660.<sup>2</sup>

1653.—CHALONER, Thomas, ejected by the Committee of Sequestrators from the head-mastership of Shrewsbury School. (*Memoirs*, "Addenda.")<sup>3</sup>

1680.—PRICE, Henry, A.M., Prebendary of Llanfair in St. Asaph Cathedral, 1684. Deprived, as a Non-juror, 1691. (Monument in Llanfair, D. C., Church.)

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<sup>1</sup> The difficulty about the names and order of the earliest Head Masters, noticed in the *Memoirs* (p. 47), seems to have arisen from the circumstance of Robert Griffith having been the first to have received his salary through the Warden. The previous interval from the foundation gives ample space for the earlier ones, given on the authority of no less an antiquary than Dr. (afterwards Bishop) Humphreys, who derived them from the Registers of his see. Gabriel Powel, named in Wood's *Athenæ Oxon.* (first edition), was apparently a mistake for Gabriel Parry.

<sup>2</sup> The Archbishop of Canterbury issued an inquisition to the Bishop of Bangor in 1636, to inquire into the cause of dismissal of the late Master, and certain complaints made by him against the Warden. (*A. C.*, 1863, p. 286.)

<sup>3</sup> The School was at this time very flourishing, the names of the scholars

- 1691.—LLOYD, John, the correspondent of Edward Llwyd, the anti-quary.
- 1700.—MORGAN ..... D.D. (Benefaction-table.)
- 1705.—WILLIAMS, John, A.M., R. Clocaenog, 1714.
- 1714.—WYNNE, John, A.M., Fellow of Magdalene College, Cambridge; R. Efenechtyd, 1698. (Monument in Ruthin Church.)
- 1724.—EDWARDS ..... (qu. V. Llanfair, 1702; R. Llanfwrog, 1730).
- 1731.—VAUGHAN, Thomas, A.M.
- 1739.—HUGHES, Thomas, LL.B., Trin. Hall, Camb.; R. Llanfwrog, 1755; V. Llansilin, 1763-76.<sup>1</sup>
- 1768.—PARRY, William, A.M., Second Master; V. Llanfair, 1776; Warden, 1784; R. Llanfwrog, 1794.
- 1785.—WALTERS, John, A.M., Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford; R. Efenechtyd, 1789. (Monument in that church.) He was the son of the author of the Welsh Dictionary, and himself the author of some *Letters to Dr. Priestley*; wrote the preface to Jones' *Relics of the Welsh Bards*, and edited Roger Ascham's *Toxophilus*.
- 1789.—ROBERTS, Thomas, A.M.; R. Efenechtyd, 1789-90; R. Llangwyfan, 1790-94; R. Clocaenog, 1794-96. (Monument in Clocaenog Church.) He was chaplain to Archbishop Moore.
- 1796.—HUGHES, David, M.A., usher under the last two Heads; R. Efenechtyd, 1790; R. Llangynhafal, 1796. (Monument.) His poems, in English and Latin, are edited by his son (1865).
- 1809.—JONES, Edward, M.A., chaplain of Christ Church, Oxford.
- 1831.—OWEN, Owen, M.A., Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford.<sup>2</sup>
- 1831.—WILLIAMS, Charles, M.A.; first class Litt. Hum., second class Math., 1827; Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford; P. C. Holyhead, 1845; Hon. Canon of Bangor, and Proctor in Convocation for the clergy of the diocese; Principal of Jesus College, 1857. Author of a volume of Sermons privately printed.
- 1845.—BARNWELL, Edward Lowry, M.A., F.S.A. Scot., Balliol College, Oxford; first class Math., hon. fourth class Litt. Hum., 1834; Scholar of Jesus, 1834. Author of *Perrot Memoirs* and other antiquarian notes.
- 1865.—FREEBORN, John William, M.A., Worcester College, Oxford; second class Math., 1846; Head Master of Llanrwst School, 1851-1865.
- 1871.—PRESTON, George, M.A., Fellow of Magdalene College, Camb.; first class Classical Tripos, 1864; Assistant Master at Shrewsbury School; Assistant and Composition Master in King Edward's School, Birmingham. Author of *Greek Verse Composition*.

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including Vaughan, Tudor, Trygarn, Powel, Pennant, Trevor, Salusbury, Coetmor, Nanney, Thelwall, Grosvenor, Madryn, Yonge, Dolben, Crewe, Moyle, Meyrick, Kynaston, Goodman, Cotton, Bythel, Meredith, etc.

<sup>1</sup> "He carried the School to greater celebrity than it had ever attained before." His son was Dr. Thomas Hughes, Preb. of St. Paul's.

<sup>2</sup> Drowned in the *Rothesay Castle* before he had taken charge of the School.

## THE DEANERY OF HOLYWELL.

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THIS deanery was formed by the subdivision of the ancient deanery of "Englefield" (1291), "Tegyngil" (1535) into those of St. Asaph and Holywell, December 13, 1844, and embraces the parishes of CILCAIN, Rhydymwyn, HALKIN, Rhesycae, HOLYWELL, Bagillt and Brynford, NANNERCH, NORTHOP, Flint and St. Mark's Connah's Quay, WHITFORD, Gorsedd and Mostyn, and YSGEIFIOG.<sup>1</sup>

### CILCAIN.<sup>2</sup>

This parish consists of seven townships, viz. Trellan, Llysycoed, Maes-ygroes, Dolfechlas, Cefn, Trellyniau, and Llysdianhunedd (also called Glust), having an area of 5,500 acres, rated at £5,637, and a population of 949. For ecclesiastical purposes, however, the townships of Dolfechlas and portions of Cefn and Llysdianhunedd have been assigned to the new district of Rhydymwyn, and that of Trellyniau and part of Llysdianhunedd to Rhesycae.

According to the *Taxatio*, "Eccl'ia de Kyllein taxatur,—rectoria, £7, dec. 14s.; vicaria, £4:1:8, dec. 8s. 2d."; and in the *Valor Eccles.*, "Rectoria valet clare, £14:14:5¼, dec. £1:9:5¼; vicaria, £6:6:8, dec. 12s. 8d."; being in the proportion of two-thirds to the rector, and one-third to the vicar. Pennant states that Sir Richard Clough, who died in 1570, "left the tithes of this parish to the school at Denbigh,"<sup>3</sup> which could not have been the case, as they were not impropriate; but he may have had a lease of them, and have directed his legacy to be paid therefrom; or possibly the legacy itself, or at least its amount, may have been made to depend upon the appropriation of the sinecure to that purpose by the Bishop.<sup>4</sup> More recently Bishop Wynne promised to appropriate the said tithes to the endowment of a Welsh church, to be built at Wrexham; and appointed Mr. Davies, vicar of Rhuabon, to the sinecure for the interval. But unfortunately the

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<sup>1</sup> The Roman letters indicate the mother parishes.

<sup>2</sup> Variouslly interpreted as—1, the fair retreat; 2, the retreat on the Cain, a stream and dell close by; and 3, the retreat of Cain, for her goodness surnamed "Eurgain," the foundress of Northop Church.

<sup>3</sup> *Tours in Wales*, ii, p. 142.

<sup>4</sup> *Suprà*, under Denbigh, p. 366.



project fell through, owing to a dispute about the patronage, and the money which had been collected was returned. Mr. Davies thereupon rebuilt, at his own expense, the north aisle,<sup>1</sup> which had been burnt down during a "Plygain" on Christmas morning, 1532.<sup>2</sup> The Commutation Returns (1836) assigned £472:3:4 to the Treasurer of Queen Anne's Bounty, for the sinecure rectory; £266:4:10 to the vicar, £22:8:6 to the rector of Ysceifog; £17 to the rector of Llanferras: these two last in token, doubtless, of some early consolidation. Out of the rectorial tithes the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have increased the vicar's income to £343:1:8, and have transferred £236:9 towards the endowment of Rhydymwyn, and £60 per ann. to that of Rhesycae. They also transferred to the vicar, in 1844, a tenement called "Plas Person," with thirteen acres of land previously belonging to the sinecure; but this was sold in 1869, and the money invested in the purchase of other land more conveniently situated. The present extent of the glebe is eleven acres; and there is also a house, rebuilt in 1807. The patronage, which formerly belonged to the sec of St. Asaph, was transferred by the late Act to the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, who has subsequently given it to the Lord Chancellor in exchange for one in his own diocese.

The church, St. Mary's, consists of two equal aisles of four bays, with a western tower. The north aisle, as we have seen, was rebuilt in 1746; that of the south side being of a much earlier period, and retaining some interesting features. It would seem, from the appearance of the wall and the westernmost arch, as if the original church had only extended so far; and that when enlarged, one of its walls (probably the south one, as the tower is attached to the north aisle) was opened out and arched; and somewhat later, both parts lengthened to their present extent. The most striking feature is the beautiful Perpendicular roof of the south aisle, the western portion of which is of the hammer-beam form richly ornamented, whilst that of the eastern or chancel portion is coved in a segment of a circle, with horizontal bands of quatrefoil tracery. There is a tradition that it came from the neighbouring Abbey of Basingwerk. In any case it would seem, from the boldness of its carved work, the something of heaviness which it has, and the unsymmetrical distances at which the principals are fixed over the arches, that it was originally designed for a church of other proportions. Both it and the rest of the church were carefully repaired, in 1845, under the care of Mr. Ambrose Poynter, F.S.A.<sup>3</sup> The Perpendicular chancel-window, of five lights, con-

<sup>1</sup> Brass inscription on north wall.

<sup>2</sup> "Mil pum cant, rhifant y rhai'n  
Nôd addas, a deuddeg ar hugain,  
Oedd y Gair am FAB Mair fain  
Pan ddaeth y Golcaith i Gilcen." (B. Willis, p. 230.)

<sup>3</sup> The roof and early tombstones are described and illustrated in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* for 1846, p. 441, and 1847, p. 77.



tains portions of old stained glass ; and there are Decorated windows on the south side, and at the east end of the north aisle.

Among other remains of mediæval art which are preserved in the church may be noted,— (1), an early Norman font remarkable for the interlaced ornamentation of its exterior, and the conical form of its interior ; (2), the old stoup ; (3), a coffin-lid with the bust of a man, and his hands crossed, inscribed “Hic jacet MARREDT : IERWERT'H” ; (4), another in the window near the pulpit, bearing a griffin rampant, and inscribed “Hic jacet JO...NDYAU... Requiescat in pace” ; (5), another ornamented with a cross fleuri ; (6), one formerly serving as a lintel to the old vestry door ; and (7), another with the bust of a female, which now forms a coping stone on the north gable ; and in the churchyard the shaft of the old cross. The modern monuments are chiefly to the memory of the Mostyns of Cilcain Hall. A gallery occupies the west end of the south aisle. In it is a small organ, and under it the vestry. An incongruous addition was made to the old tower some years ago by increasing its height with several feet of brickwork.

The National School was rebuilt in 1842.

Several charities are enumerated in the benefaction-table (1735) and in the Charity Report (1837), but none of them are now in existence, *e. g.* :

1. Rent-charge of 3s. on Talar-y-dref, by Thomas LLOYD.
2.     “         of 5s. on Wenerw, by David ap REES ap EVAN of Llysycoed, in 1617.
3. Interest of £8, by Mrs. Dorothy MOSTYN of Llandyrnog, in 1703.
4.     “         £5, by Mr. Thomas WILLIAMS, Mold, 1734.
5.     “         £50, by Gruff. WILLIAMS in 1756.
6.     “         £50, by Mr. Roger MOSTYN, junior, of Gyrn, 1729.
7.     “         £50 by Mr. Roger MOSTYN, senior, of Cilcain, 1729.
8.     “         £45 by Miss JANE EDWARDS of Maesygroes, 1808.

According to the Report, Nos. 2-5 were last in the hands of Mr. Watkin Williams of Penbedw ; and 6, 7, of members of the Mostyn family. Four cottages for the poor were bought in 1810, probably with the last bequest. They are now in ruins. There is a field near the village, called “Cae Bara Gwyn,” which would imply that it had once been applied as a charity for white bread.

#### SINECURE RECTORS.

1537.—BIRKENHEAD, Ralph <sup>1</sup>	1579.—TOMSON, William
1557.—PARSEY, John	1596.—YALE, Thomas
1560.—JONES, Griffith	—— PARRY, Bishop <i>in com.</i>
1564.—BRERETON, Thomas	1622.—WYNNE, Morgan
1566.—ITHELL, Thomas, LL.D.	1644.—LLOYD, Samuel, B.M. <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Canon, 1536.

<sup>2</sup> V. Gresford, 1635 ; R. Aldford, dioc. Chester ; S. R. Llansannan, 1643.

- 1673.—CLOPTON, Thomas, M.A.<sup>1</sup> 1765.—NEWCOME, Benjamin, D.D.<sup>3</sup>  
 1721.—DAVIES, Richard, M.A.<sup>2</sup> 1775.—POYNTZ, Charles, D.D.  
 1746.—WELLS, John 1779.—DELAP, J., D.D.<sup>4</sup>  
 1747.—ALLEN, John 1813.—CORY, R. Towerson, D.D.<sup>5</sup>

## VICARS.

- 1536.—GRUFFYDD AP THOMAS 1749.—PRICE, John, A.B.<sup>9</sup>  
 1585.—MORGAN, Thomas 1762.—ELLIS, Evan, A.B.  
 1626.—PRICHARD, Robert 1772.—EDWARDS, Edward, A.M.<sup>10</sup>  
 1626.—MORGAN, Henry 1782.—LLOYD, John, B.D.<sup>11</sup>  
 1665.—LLOYD, Edward<sup>6</sup> 1807.—WILLIAMS, Rowland, A.M.<sup>12</sup>  
 1702.—LEWIS, Ellis 1809.—HUGHES, Thomas  
 1705.—HUGHES, Peter, A.B. 1826.—HUGHES, John<sup>13</sup>  
 1739.—PRICE, Thomas, M.A.<sup>7</sup> 1841.—EVANS, Thomas  
 1740.—EDWARDS, Thomas, M.A.<sup>8</sup> 1851.—HALLOWES, B., M.A.<sup>14</sup>

1867.—JONES, Ebenezer, St. David's College, Lampeter; Deacon, 1852; Priest, 1853; C. Llansantffraid, G. D.; P. C. Nerquis, 1856.

## RHYDYMWYN.

THE Order in Council, dated 31st March, 1865, which assigned this district, defines it to be consolidated out of portions of the parishes of Cilcain, Mold, and Northop, the chapelry of Gwernaffield, and the consolidated chapelry of Rhesycae. Its extent is about 2,250 acres; and the townships of which it is composed are,—a portion of Gwysaney

<sup>1</sup> Head Master of Oswestry School, 1672; Canon, 1675; S. R. Llanrwst, 1677; Prebendary of Meifod, 1677; R. Castle Caereinion, 1678.

<sup>2</sup> V. Rhuabon and R. Erbistock, 1706; Canon of St. David's, 1732; Canon of St. Asaph, 1710.

<sup>3</sup> Prebendary of Worcester, Dean of Rochester, 1773.

<sup>4</sup> "Beneficed near Lewes in Sussex, and published several things, among which are two tragedies, *Hecuba* and *The Royal Suppliants*." (B. W.)

<sup>5</sup> Master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge. On his death, in 1835, the sinecure lapsed to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

<sup>6</sup> V. Llangwm, 1664-66.

<sup>7</sup> R. Caerwys, 1740; Canon, 1747; Vic. Chor. and R. St. George, 1750; R. Cerrigydrudion, 1759.

<sup>8</sup> R. Llanelian, 1749.

<sup>9</sup> R. Ysceifiog, 1762.

<sup>10</sup> V. Llanarmon yn Iâl, 1782. Editor of the second edition of Browne Willis' *Survey of the Diocese*, two vols., 1801.

<sup>11</sup> Formerly Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford; V. Holywell, 1773.

<sup>12</sup> R. Halkin and Canon, 1809; V. Meifod, 1819; R. Ysceifiog, 1836.

<sup>13</sup> R. Nannerch, 1841.

<sup>14</sup> Lincoln College, Oxford; P. C. Disserth, 1867.

and Gwernaffield in Mold, a portion of Cefn and Glust (Llysdianhun-edd), and the whole of Dolfechlas in Cilcain, a portion of Caerfallwch in Northop, and of Lygan y llan in Halkin. It was endowed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, at first, with £236:6 per ann. out of the lapsed sinecure rectory of Cilcain, and augmented in 1871 with £127:15:11 per ann. out of that of Northop; so that the present value is £364:1:11. Besides which there is a new house and an acre and three quarters of glebe. Patron, the Bishop of St. Asaph.

The church, St. John the Evangelist, consists of chancel, with organ-chamber and vestry on the south side, and nave with north porch. The site was given by P. B. Davies-Cooke, Esq., Gwysaney;<sup>1</sup> the foundation-stone laid by Miss Davies-Cooke, August 1, 1861; and the church consecrated 17th September, 1864. The chancel is separated from the nave by a low stone screen which supports the pillars of the chancel-arch; a painted reredos represents the Last Supper; and bands of quatrefoil tracery are continued round the sides. The east window, of three lights, has geometrical head-tracery, and detached marble shafts at the mullions and angles. The oak roof is of peculiar design,<sup>2</sup> and very effective; and the floor paved with encaustic tiles. The sanctuary-step bears the inscription, "To the glory of God, and in memory of Philip Davies-Cooke of Gwysaney; born 11th August, 1793; died 20 November, 1853; this chancel was erected A.D. 1863." In the nave a polygonal pulpit of freestone, with open arcaded panels and small pillars of green and pink marble at its angles, occupies the south-eastern angle; and the font, which is square, and supported by a circular base, has its panels carved in diaper, with the *Agnus* and monogram, and emblems of the Trinity and the Passion. This is in memory of Elinor Hallowses, wife of the Rev. Brabazon Hallowses, vicar of Cilcain, who died Dec. 28, 1862. Among other gifts may be enumerated the Communion-plate, by Lady Helena C. Cooke; the rich altar-cloth, embroidered, by Mrs. P. B. Davies-Cooke; and the organ by Dr. Reynolds of Coed du. The porch has perforated side-lights, and is provided with stone benches. The material employed is the local limestone, with freestone dressings for the windows and angles; and horizontal bands of the same, introduced with excellent effect, both externally and internally. A chaste cross of white marble, in the churchyard, marks the grave of Frederick Anthony Davies-Cooke, ob.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Davies-Cooke also gave the site for the Parsonage and the School.

<sup>2</sup> This peculiarity consists, first, in the lowest purlin being fixed perpendicularly in the inner wall-plate, and supported from it by curved and cusped braces between the principal rafters; secondly, in there being two head-pieces resting on the collars of the principal trusses, from which struts are fixed to support the common rafters in both a perpendicular and sloping direction. There is also a centre head-piece resting on a second collar in the principal trusses, which is supported longitudinally by curved braces from the lower collar. Some tracery fills in the space between the two collars.—J. H. P.



13 March, 1869. This is one of the prettiest and most effective little churches in the diocese, and was erected at a total cost of about £2,500, from the plans of Mr. J. H. Pearson of Harley Street, London.

The National School has been built at a cost of about £840, towards which the Committee of Council granted £189:6:3; the Diocesan Board of Education, £40. It was formally opened Oct. 11, 1871.

*Vicar*.—1865, JONES, James, Theol. Assoc. of King's College, London; Deacon, 1856; Priest, 1857; C. Llanuwchllyn, 1856; Llansantffraid, G. D., 1858; Holywell, 1860; Ysceifiog, 1861; Rhydymwyn, 1863.

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### HALKIN.<sup>1</sup>

THE parish contains three townships, Lygan y wern, Lygan y llan, and Hendrefigillt, with an area of about 3,800 acres; the rated portion being 2,110, and the value, £3,458. For ecclesiastical purposes, however, Hendrefigillt township has been assigned to the new district of Rhesycae, and a portion of Lygan y llan to Rhydymwyn. The population is chiefly engaged in lead mining.

It appears from *Domesday*, under "Inglecroft, Brunfor et Alchene," that there was a church here at that early date, "Ibi in dominio ecclesia cum presbitero." In 1291 "Ecclesia de Helyng taxatur,—rectoria, £4; non dec.; vicaria, £4:1:8; dec. 1s. 2d." In the interval between the *Taxatio* and the *Valor*, the rectory and vicarage were united; so that we have in the latter, "Rectoria de Halkeyn valet clare £14:7:11½; dec. £1:8:9½." The commuted value of the tithes is £380:10, and there is an acre and a half of glebe. Over the door of the old rectory house was inscribed, "Deo qui dedit, 1622." The present house was built in 1812, and partly rebuilt in 1840. Patron, since 1861, the Bishop of Llandaff.

The church, St. Mary's, was rebuilt in 1776, partly by a brief, partly by subscription. It consists of a nave with a small apse, and has a belfry-tower at the west end, a south entrance and north vestry. A painting of the Last Supper is placed at the east end, and the west is occupied by a gallery. It is pewed to seat three hundred and forty. The principal monuments are those of Mrs. Ann Williams of Halkin Castle, 1703; the Prices and Humphreys of Penypylle; Edward Roberts, M.A., rector, 1839; and Petrus Roberts, A.M., rector, ob. 1819, who is described as "in legibus, moribus, institutis, annalibus, poesi, musica, gentis Cambro-Britannicæ instructissimus."

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<sup>1</sup> The Welsh form is "Helygan," ordinarily pronounced as in the name of the two townships; but there is some doubt as to its origin. The common derivation is from "Helygen," a willow tree; but it has also been thought to be derived from "Llugan," the founder of the church, whose name also occurs in Llanllugan in Montgomeryshire; and in this case it would probably be a contraction of "Heol Lygan."



The National School, containing two rooms (for boys and girls) and a class-room, with a master's house, was erected in 1849 by the Marquis of Westminster, and cost £1,408 : 19 : 5.

The only charities now remaining to the parish are :

The interest of £58<sup>1</sup> invested in the Post Office Savings' Bank.

Rent-charge of £2 on Plas Issa, by Henry LEWIS, in 1692.

Many valuable ones have been lost, *e. g.*,—

- (1.) The sum of £600, left by John BARKER in 1756, through the failure of Mr. Richard Ingleby, a son of the testator's executor, in 1806.
- (2.) A sum of £100 left by Thos. WILLIAMS, Esq., of Halkin, in 1721, for schooling. Interest appears to have been paid for it till 1786, but nothing known of it since then.
- (3.) Rent-charge of £12 per ann., not paid since 1770, vested in 1780 in Sir Edward Lloyd, Bart.
- (4.) A gift of £4 by Edward PUGH.
- (5.) A sum of £50 by Sir Roger MOSTYN, 1729.
- (6.) A sum of £10 by Jane BOOLY.

#### RECTORS.

1537.—CONWAY, Thomas	1730.—VAUGHAN, William
1555.—RHYS AP JOHN <sup>2</sup>	1730.—LEWIS, Hugh
—— WILLIAMS, John	1742.—EDWARDS, George <sup>7</sup>
1557.—EVANS, Wm., or Ap Ienn	1757.—WILLIAMS, Jeffrey <sup>8</sup>
1594.—LLOYD, Robert <sup>3</sup>	1778.—LLOYD, Hedd <sup>9</sup>
1626.—EVANS, Richard <sup>4</sup>	1783.—CLOUGH, Thomas, M.A. <sup>10</sup>
1666.—EDWARDS, Robert	1797.—WILLIAMS, Hugh, M.A. <sup>11</sup>
1694.—OWEN, Oliver <sup>6</sup>	1809.—WILLIAMS, R., M.A. <sup>12</sup>
1729.—MYDDELTON, John	1818.—ROBERTS, Peter, M.A. <sup>13</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This includes £30, Mrs. Wynne's charity, and Mr. Fletcher's and Mrs. Lloyd's of £5 each.

<sup>2</sup> "Deprived for simony and ignorance." (B. W.)

<sup>3</sup> V. Wrexham, 1598 ; Preb. Meliden, 1624.

<sup>4</sup> V. Tremeirchion, 1619.

<sup>5</sup> V. Corwen, 1658.

<sup>6</sup> Owen Oliver obtained this presentation from Bishop Jones, for a bribe of £40. (*Proceedings*.)

<sup>7</sup> R. Llanarmon, D. C., 1708 ; V. Bettws yn Rhôs, 1738.

<sup>8</sup> V. Choral, 1736. <sup>9</sup> Of Hafodunos. R. Bodfari, 1761 ; V. Hope, 1765.

<sup>10</sup> V. Llangernyw, 1783 ; Canon, 1794 ; R. Denbigh, 1797 ; R. Hirnant, 1799 ; V. Nantglyn, 1807.

<sup>11</sup> Chaplain to Bishop Bagot ; R. Llanelidan, 1780 ; V. Conway, 1786 ; R. Llangynyw, 1790 ; Canon of St. Asaph, 1792 ; R. Clocaenog, 1796.

<sup>12</sup> V. Cilcain, 1807 ; Canon, 1809 ; V. Meifod, 1819 ; R. Ysceifiog, 1836.

<sup>13</sup> R. Llanarmon, D. C., 1811 ; V. Madeley, 1814. Author of "Harmony of the Epistles," 1800 ; "Christianity Vindicated," 1800 ; "Sketch of the Early History of the Cymry," 1803 ; "Chronicles of the Kings of Britain,"

1819.—ROBERTS, Edward, M.A.<sup>1</sup>

1839.—WILLIAMS, W. M., M.A.<sup>2</sup>

1851.—EVANS, Edward, A.M., Trin. Coll., Dublin; Deacon, 1823; Priest, 1824; C. Gwaunysgor, 1827; P. C. Newmarket, 1828.

### RHESYCAE.

“THE consolidated chapelry of Rhesycae was constituted by an Order in Council, June 27th, 1848, out of the township of Hendrefigillt in Halkin, the township of Trellyniau, and part of that of Llysdianhunedd in Cilcain, and that portion of the township of Trellan uchaf in Ysceifiog which lies to the south of the ridge Penucha'r plwyf, and abuts on Rhesycae.” It contains a population of about 627.

In 1848 a sum of £400 (of which £300 were an anonymous gift) was invested in the Funds, 3 per Cent. Consols., for the benefit of the incumbent; and in 1849 the Ecclesiastical Commissioners assigned to the endowment a grant of £60 per ann. out of the sinecure rectory of Cilcain, which they further augmented in 1855 with a tithe rent-charge of £69 : 18 : 2, arising out of Ysceifiog. A subsequent augmentation, in 1865, has raised the income to £234 per ann. A parsonage-house was built in 1859, at a cost of £1,014 : 18 : 7½,<sup>3</sup> and has four acres of glebe attached. Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The church, dedicated under the name of Christ Church, is very plain. It was built at a cost of £850, and was consecrated the 30th September, 1847. The sites for both the church and the house were presented by the Commissioners of Woods and Forests.

### PERPETUAL CURATES.

1849.—DAVIES, John Evan, M.A., C. St. Mary's, Llanrwst, 1852; P. C. Trevor, 1861; R. Llangelynnin near Dolgelley, 1865.

1852.—JONES, Edward Evans, St. Bees; P. C. Gorsedd, 1853.

1854.—JENKINS, David, St. David's, Lampeter, Scholar; Deacon, 1851; Priest, 1852.

1811; “Cambrian Popular Antiquities,” 1815; “Essay on the Origin of Constellations”; “History of Oswestry,” 1815, etc.

<sup>1</sup> P. C. Henllan, 1801.

<sup>2</sup> P. C. Flint, 1825; R. Llanfechain, 1851.

<sup>3</sup> Towards this the Ecclesiastical Commissioners contributed £400; the Marquis of Westminster, £200; Queen Anne's Bounty and Bishop Short, each £100; and £200 were withdrawn from the above mentioned fund of £400 in the 3 per Cents.

## HOLYWELL.

THIS parish embraces the nine townships of Holywell,<sup>1</sup> Greenfield,<sup>2</sup> Wellstone, Bagillt<sup>3</sup> fawr, Bagillt fechan, Coleshill<sup>4</sup> fawr, Coleshill fechan, Calcot, and Brynford, having an area of 7,532 a. 1 r. 23 p., rated at £31,558, and a population of 9,965. Ecclesiastically, however, this has been greatly diminished by the formation out of it of the new districts of Bagillt and Brynford, whereby the portion remaining to the mother church has been reduced to an area of 3,200 a. 3 r. 30 p., and a population of 6000; and this has again been relieved by the recent consecration of the new church at Greenfield.

Whether the "Weltune" of *Domesday*<sup>5</sup> was intended to represent the town of Holywell, or the township of Wellstone, or even to indicate some other unidentified place in the neighbourhood of the other names with which it is there associated, may be a matter of some doubt. The absence of any notice of either a church or a priest concerns us more; for in contrast to the record of Whitford, it implies the greater importance of the latter; and in connexion with the next notice, it seems to indicate the period when the church was built, for in A.D. 1093, Adeliza, the wife of Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, added "the churche of Haliwel" to her husband's previous grants to the monks of St. Werburgh's in Chester. The legendary Life of St. Winifred, compiled by Robert of Shrewsbury about fifty years later, and combining all the information he could gather from the most likely quarters,<sup>6</sup> throws back the foundation, it is true, to a very early date; but it also implies, when divested of its mythical character, that this was a daughter church of Whitford; and it is not improbable that the annual payment of two shillings made to St. Beuno, "ex'a d'nm de Holywell," down at least to the Dissolution, may have been the formal acknowledgment of such connexion. It was, however, about the time of the foundation, or perhaps re-foundation, of Basingwerk Abbey (c. 1130), that this place came into prominence, for the proximity of St. Winifred's Well seems to have been as beneficial to that

<sup>1</sup> Welsh, "Treffynnon," i. e., the well-town.

<sup>2</sup> W., "Maesglas."

<sup>3</sup> Anciently written also "Baggeburg," "Bachelie," "Backley," and "Bakeley."

<sup>4</sup> W., "Cynsyllt." In the *Myfyrian Archaeology* written as "Cwm Seled."

<sup>5</sup> "Aliam medietatem hujus manerii (sc. Biscopstreu, hodiè Bistre) et medietatem de Mulinton et totum Wiselei tenet de Comite Odinus. Berewickai ejusdem manerii Hendrebifau et Weltune et Munentone et due Horspol et dimidiam Mulintone tenet Hugo filius Norman de Comite."

<sup>6</sup> "Consultis Rossis et Ruthenis,"—the first referring to Gwytherin in Rhôs; the other, no doubt, to Gwytheriac near Ruthin, i. e., Efenechtyd, q. v., p. 409.

house as the possession of her relics proved to the kindred Abbey at Shrewsbury. Henry II (A.D. 1154-88) granted "to God, St. Mary, and the monks of Basingwerk," *inter alia*, "the chapel of Basingwerk"; and David, son of Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, in 1240 added "the chirche also of Haliwelle, with the chapel of Colsul." The *Taxatio* of 1291 next records, "Ecclesia de Heliwa tax' rectoria £15, dec. £1 : 10; vicaria £3, non decimatur." The *Valor* of 1535 returns the rectorial tithes as appropriate to the Abbey, and worth £31 : 6 : 4, inclusive of the offerings at the altar of St. Winifred, but liable to an annual payment to St. Beuno.<sup>1</sup> The vicarage is given at £9 : 14 : 8; tenth, 19s. 5½d.; and the chapel at £10, dec. £1.

In 1537 the Abbey of Basingwerk was dissolved, and its possessions transferred, together with those of Beddgelert, Cardigan, and others, to the Abbey of Bustlesham or Bisham, which Henry VIII refounded and greatly enriched; but in 1539 that Abbey was itself also dissolved; and two years later, on the 28th of April, 1541 (32 Hen. VIII), letters patent were issued under the great seal granting to Henri ap Harri and Peter Mutton the reversion of the house and site of Basingwerk, in consideration of £28 : 11 : 8 purchase money."<sup>2</sup> By the marriage of Anne, the daughter of Henri ap Harri, to William Mostyn of Talacre, the site passed to that family, in which it still remains; and on the marriage of Anne, the daughter of the above Sir Peter Mutton, Chief Justice of North Wales, to Robert Davies of Gwysaney, serjeant at law, the tithes appear to have been transferred to him as her dower, for in 1580 Mr. Davies leased them to his son John for ten years, and in 1614 his grandson let or sold those of "the townships of Over Berrington<sup>3</sup> and Nether Berrington, and of Great Backley and Little Backley, to John Pennant of Holywell.<sup>4</sup> In 1801 they were held by the Llanerch, Bychton, and Pennant of Bagillt families.<sup>5</sup> They are now inappropriate to Whitehall Dod, Esq., of Llanerch, and the Earl of Denbigh, and of the commuted value of £959 : 19 : 3. The vicarial tithes were commuted at the same time (1836) at £271 : 5, and have been subsequently augmented as follows :

- |   |    |   |    |   |     |   |   |
|---|----|---|----|---|-----|---|---|
| 1. Mrs. ALLANSON, by a codicil to her will in 1840, enrolled in Chancery in 1852, transferred from the inappropriate tithes the annual sum of               | -  | - | -  | - | £25 | 0 | 0 |
| 2. David PENNANT, Esq., in 1840 gave £1,000 3 per Cent. Cons.   | 30 | 0 | 0  |   |     |   |   |
| 3. Jesus College, Oxford, in 1840, £800 (= £905 : 4 : 8) in ditto   | 27 | 3 | 0  |   |     |   |   |
| 4. Lady Emma PENNANT, £700 in trust in Queen Anne's Bounty, being part of £3,000 left by her will, in 1846, for spiritual purposes in Holywell and Whitford | -  | - | 21 | 0 | 0   |   |   |

<sup>1</sup> "Oblac'o'es ad S'c'am Wenefredam £x." "Reddit' resolut' S'c'o Bew-  
noni per annu' ex'a d'niu' de Holywell ijs."

<sup>2</sup> *Arch. Camb.*, 1846, p. 411.

<sup>3</sup> Probably Coleshill fawr and Coleshill fechan.

<sup>4</sup> Llannerch MSS.

<sup>5</sup> Br. Willis.



5. There are also forty acres of land at Cilceen, being a portion of the enclosed waste lands bought in 1794 with two grants of £200 from Queen Anne's Bounty, and £150 from Jesus College, Oxford, now let at <sup>1</sup>	-	-	-	15	0	0	
6. Interest of £39: 10 in Queen Anne's Bounty, being balance of above grants	-	-	-	-	1	5	6

The vicarage house was built in 1760, at the expense of Thomas and John Barker, Esqs., of Brynmadyn,<sup>2</sup> and has attached to it about an acre of land. The patronage, which before the Dissolution belonged to Basingwerk Abbey, passed with the rectory to the family of Gwysaney. In 1626 Robert Davies of Gwysaney, by deed, gave the nomination to Jesus College, Oxford, but retained the presentation in his own hands; and in 1841 Mrs. Allanson made over to the College the right of presentation also.

The church, dedicated to St. Winifred (vigil, Nov. 3), was rebuilt in 1769, and probably at that time re-dedicated in the name of St. James the Apostle. It consists of a nave with north and south aisles, and a *quasi* chancel; and is occupied on three sides by a gallery, that at the west end being for the organ<sup>3</sup> and choir, that on the north free, and the one on the south pewed; the whole giving accommodation for twelve hundred. Some of the pillars of the nave are Norman; the arches under the tower, Early English; the upper portion is of later date, and contains one bell. There is also preserved a hand-bell, which, owing to the position of the church, in a hollow below the town, and the consequent difficulty of hearing, used to be carried about the town by the verger, and rung to announce the times of service, until a substitute was supplied by that of the new Cemetery Chapel. Under the tower is also preserved a mutilated effigy of a priest in his vestments. It was discovered during the rebuilding of the church, and is supposed by Pennant to represent Thomas, second son of Thomas ap David, Abbot of Basingwerk, a former vicar of this parish. More recent monuments, to the Mostyns of Talacre, Pennants of Bagillt and Holywell, Pantons of Bagillt, Edwards of Brynford Hall, and others, are described in Pennant's interesting *History of Holywell*. The Communion plate consists of a flagon, presented by Mrs. Key in 1715; and a paten and two chalices, the gifts (together with a pocket Communion service for use with the sick) of Mr. John Hughes in 1853.

<sup>1</sup> It may illustrate the working of the old system of dilapidations to state that the sum put down on account of this in 1868 was £70,—six years' value of the then rental.

<sup>2</sup> "Ædes hasce Thomas et Johannes Barkerus de Brynmadyn fratres viri multis nominibus colendi suis solorum impensis animoque valde animabus benevolo testamento etiam uterque suo pia sedulitate curarunt exstruendas. Quod felix faustumque ut sit bonus nimirum faxit Deus." (Inscription formerly on the house.)

<sup>3</sup> Built by Flight and Robson, London, in 1825.

The churchyard was enlarged in 1815, the land being given by Sir Piers Mostyn, Bart., of Talacre; and on October 11, 1847, a new cemetery was consecrated,—the land (valued at £200) having been given by Lady Emma Pennant. The mortuary chapel, dedicated to St. Peter, was erected by subscription in 1848, and cost, together with the boundary walls, £800. The bell was added in 1853.

ST. WINIFRED'S CHAPEL, over the Well, was built about the year 1490, by Margaret Countess of Derby, the mother of Henry VII, and consists of a nave with a small north aisle or recess of three bays, and an apsidal chancel considerably raised above it, but now divided off by a partition. The chancel-roof is vaulted in stone, and has curious devices carved in wood along the wall-plate. The east window has been converted into a doorway, and three out of four others closed. In the nave the roof is Perpendicular, and retains some of its bosses. Elegant fluted pillars sustain the aisle-arcades, and are set off with characteristic carving at their intersections. A small clerestory of three lights, above them, has been hidden by the raising of the external roof. Before its erection there was probably an earlier and less handsome edifice, as in 1439 Isabel Countess of Warwick gave her gown of russet velvet, probably to grace the image on high festivals;<sup>1</sup> and in Richard III's reign the Abbot and Convent received ten merces yearly from the Crown, "for the sustenance and salarie of a prieste at the Chappelle of St. Wynifrede."<sup>2</sup> In the *Valor* of 1535 it is stated to be worth £10 per ann., and to be granted to the Rev. Peter Fowler for the performance of divine service therein.<sup>3</sup> At the Reformation these services were probably discontinued; but during the interval of Queen Mary's reign they must have greatly revived, as Bishop Goldwell obtained from the Pope a renewal of indulgences for pilgrims to the Well. This was, however, of short continuance, and on the accession of Queen Elizabeth it again fell into neglect. Mary, the queen of James II, received a grant of it from her husband in 1687, and expressed her intention of having it "decently repaired, and put to a good use," but hardly had time to carry it into effect. It has subsequently been used for the several purposes of a grammar school, a Sunday school, week-day lectures, and vestry; and once the assizes have been held in it, whence it has been also called the Hall. It is, however, ecclesiastical property, and used to be repaired out of the church-rate.

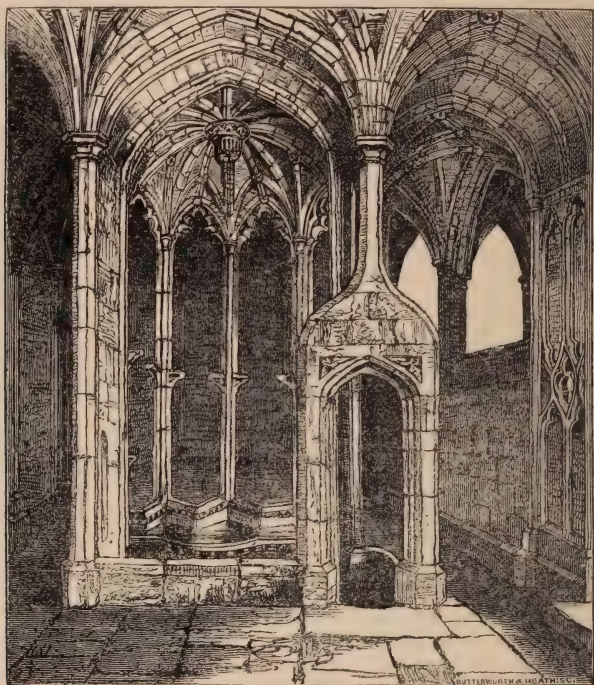
The spring above which this Chapel is built is one of unusual

<sup>1</sup> The story of the origin of the Well, told in the *Golden Legend*, printed by Wynkin de Worde in 1512, was painted on the windows before the restoration (temp. Henry VII), according to the author of *England Illustrated*.

<sup>2</sup> Pennant's *Holywell*, 44.

<sup>3</sup> "Capella de Holywell, valet clare in quadam annate sive annuali pensione per annum per dominum nunc regem per literas suas patentes, concessa Petro Fowler, clerico pro termino vite sue ad celebranda seu celebrari facienda divina servicia infra capellam predictam."

magnitude, and throws up, according to Mr. Pennant, above twenty tons of water a minute. This is enclosed in a polygonal basin, from the angles of which rise lofty fluted pillars that support a beautiful vaulted roof, the bosses of which are carved with heraldic and other devices, and the foliated tracery laden with crutches and other mementoes of the cures said to have been effected by its waters. The legendary account of its origin has been already noticed, and an attempt made



to shew the substratum of fact on which it was built ;<sup>1</sup> and a further clue to the decollation myth may, I think, be found in the well close by, once famous for the cure of sore eyes ; for as the old custom of offering pins argues for it a pre-Christian notoriety,—and it is dried up by letting off the water from the adjoining mill-pool,—it is highly probable that the effect produced upon it by the bursting forth of the larger spring may be the real, underlying fact represented by the violent attack of the son of Alyn, and the temporary end of the maiden.

The Grammar School has at different times had several benefactions made to it, *e. g.*, Mr. Williams, £100 ; Mrs. Kaey (the donor of the

<sup>1</sup> Page 2, note, *suprà*.



Communion plate), £60; Mrs. Poole and Mr. Edward Price, £25 each; and an anonymous donor, £120. Of these, the last was invested in the Halkin Turnpike Trust, which proved unprofitable, and was abandoned in 1782; the third and fourth had been lost long before; and the first two, bearing interest at 3 per cent., are now the only endowment.

The National School for boys, girls, and infants, was erected in 1819, at a cost of £1,160.<sup>1</sup>

The charities embrace :

	£	s.	d.
1. Ellis PARRY's, the rental of thirty-four acres in the township of Bagillt, left in 1628 by Ellis Parry, a native of that township, and citizen of London; distributed each Sunday, in bread, to the poor attending church - - - -	45	0	6
2. Griffith JONES', 1 a. 1 r. 10 p., distributed as above - - - -	1	4	0
3. Edward and Nicholas GEORGE's, rental of 18 a. 3 r. 8 p. in Ysgeifiog, left in 1628 and 1645; distributed in clothing tickets, 2s. each, on St. Thomas' Day - - - -	25	6	0
4. Ellis PARRY's second. Rent-charge on "Shears" public house in Wood Street, Cheapside, being £6, less 17s. 6d. taxes; distributed in books to the National School, Bryncelyn - - - -	5	2	6
5. Humphrey ROBERTS', interest of £500, 3 per Cents.; distributed on St. Thomas' Day, in clothing tickets, 2s. each - - - -	14	7	0
6. Interest of £100 <sup>2</sup> distributed to one hundred poor on St. Thomas' Day - - - - - - - - - -	5	0	0
7. Mrs. JONES' (the Rock), in 1825; distributed St. Thomas' Day - - - - - - - - - -	0	7	0
8. Miss Emma WILLIAMS', 1858, interest of £500 in Consolidated Fund, for old women born in Holywell, and past work - - - -	15	0	0
9. Mr. John HUGHES', interest of £1,000 in Liverpool Dock Bonds, 4½ per cent.; distributed on St. Thomas' Day among thirty old men and women most regular in church and at the Lord's Supper - - - - - - - - - -	47	10	0

## VICARS.

1537.—MAURICE AP DAVID  
 1542.—HOWEL AP DAVID  
 — HUGH AP DAVID  
 1593.—HUGHES, Owen  
 1608.—PRICE, Robert  
 1635.—LLOYD, Evan, A.M.

1677.—HUMPHREYS, J.  
 1682.—BALL, William, A.M.  
 1692.—PARRY, Edward  
 1700.—PRICE, Ellis  
 1763.—\*HAVARD, Benjamin, B.D.  
 1773.—\*LLOYD, John, B.D.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The National Society granted £100.

<sup>2</sup> Arising from £50 by David Parry of Bagillt, £17 from sale of confiscated Irish cattle, £10 each by Mr. Ellis and Executors of D. P., and interest, in the hands of Mr. P. P. Pennant.

\* Fellows of Jesus College, Oxford.

<sup>3</sup> V. Cilcain, 1782.



1807.—\*JONES, John, B.D.<sup>1</sup>

1837.—\*GARDNER, Arthur Downes, M.A.

1844.—\*JONES, Hugh, M.A.<sup>2</sup>

1868.—WILLIAMS, Richard Owen, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford ;  
Deacon, 1861 ; Pr., 1862 ; Curate of Hope, 1861 ; of Holywell, 1863.

### BAGILLT.<sup>3</sup>

THIS ecclesiastical district was formed out of the parish of Holywell ; gazetted May 23, 1844 ; and consists of the townships of Bagillt Fawr, Bagillt Fechan, Coleshill Fawr, and Coleshill Fechan ; having an area of 3,077 a. 2 r. 33 p. ; and a population of 3,111.

The church (St. Mary's) is cruciform in plan, with a low, battlemented tower at the west end, and turrets at the angles of the transepts. The foundation-stone was laid by the Rev. Thomas Pennant, March 29th, 1837 ; and it was consecrated the 18th of July, 1839. Total cost, £2,235.

The National School was built in 1840, at a cost of £430.

The endowment of the church consists of :

	£	s.	d.
1. Interest of £1,500 in Three per Cents., bequest of Lady Emma PENNANT	-	-	-
	45	0	0
2. Ditto, £807 : 1 : 3, New Three per Cents., now in Queen Anne's Bounty	-	-	-
	24	4	0
3. Two augmentations by Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1848 and 1859	-	-	-
	75	0	0
4. Pew-rents and fees	-	-	-
	28	0	0
	£172	4	0

A parsonage house was added in 1860 at a cost of £1,171 : 12 : 11, derived from a grant of £300 from the Galley Knight Fund ; £300, a bequest of Lady Emma Pennant ; sale of £538 : 17 : 11, Consols, in Queen Anne's Bounty ; and the balance, £32 : 15, given by Bishop Short. Patron, the vicar of Holywell.

### INCUMBENTS.

1839.—JONES, Hugh, M.A. ; V. Holywell, 1844 ; Canon Residentiary.

1844.—EDWARDS, Ebenezer.

1846.—JONES, William Evan, R. Garthbeibio, 1850.

<sup>1</sup> V. Cwm, 1820-33 ; V. Llansannan, 1833.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Canon of St. Asaph, 1850 ; Residentiary Canon, 1860 ; R. Llanrwst, 1868. Author of *The Christian's Example* (sermons preached here in Lent 1848), and *A Collection of Psalms and Hymns*.

<sup>3</sup> Possibly a corruption of *bachell*, a corner, from its position on the borderline. The name also occurs in the township of Hendre-figillt, in the neighbouring parish of Halkin.





ST. MICHAEL'S, BRYNFORD.



ST. PAUL'S, GORSEDD.

1850.—JONES, Edward Newton, B.A.;<sup>1</sup> P. C. Lynesach, 1855; Penk-hull, 1860.

1855.—JONES, James Evans, Univ. College, Durham, Licen. Theol.; Deac., 1848; Pr., 1850; P. C. Lynesach, Durham, 1848-56.

### BRYNFORD.

THE origin of this church is in one respect a painful one, as it is one of the two erected at the same time to supply the place of that at Pantasa, the foundation-stone of which had been laid as a Protestant church of England, but its dedication transferred to Rome, through the adoption of that creed by the founders, Lord and Lady Feilding.<sup>2</sup> This perversion was followed by an appeal to the public to provide funds to supply its place, which resulted in the collection of a large sum,<sup>3</sup> and the erection of the two churches of Brynford and Gorsedd, with their respective parsonages and schools.

The foundation-stone was laid by Bishop Short on Monday, 29th of September, 1851; and it was consecrated, under the dedication of St. Michael, on Tuesday, 12th of July, 1853. It consists of nave and chancel, with north vestry, south porch, and western bell-turret, and has open seats and roof. The east window has a triple lancet, and is filled with stained glass of a diaper pattern. The font is polygonal, and stands on clustered pillars. The Communion plate was presented by the Misses Luxmoore, and consists of flagon, chalice, paten, and alms-dish, each inscribed with an appropriate text. The accommodation is for three hundred and fifty, all of which are free, except nine

<sup>1</sup> Author of occasional sermons.

<sup>2</sup> The site of Pantasa had been indicated by Lady E. Pennant for a church which she wished to build; but none of the £2,000 which she left by her will for the spiritual benefits of the parishes of Whitford and Holywell were expended upon it. Lord and Lady Feilding (the daughter of Lady E. Pennant) built it at their sole expense (£10,000), as a thank-offering on their marriage.

<sup>3</sup> This embraced sums of £500 from Mrs. Pennant, Brynbella; £150 from the Earl of Cardigan; £120, Messrs. Newton, Keats, and Co.; £100 each from Bishop Short, Dean Luxmoore, Dowager Marchioness of Downshire (together with £100 for the endowment), Marquis of Westminster, Earl Howe, Lord Dinorben, Duke of Cleveland, Hon. Colonel Douglas Pennant, Misses Luxmoore, Mrs. Oakley (Tanybwllch), Mrs. Park of Ince Hall, John Day, Esq.; £50 each from Rev. Dr. Briscoe, J. L. Petit, Esq.; C. W. Tabor, Esq.; Jesus College, Oxford; Miss Pollen; Lady Dinorben; Mrs. Carey; Duchess Dowager of Northumberland; a friend of the late Rev. T. Pennant Miss Mostyn; Earl Amherst; Hon. E. M. Lloyd Mostyn, M.P.; W. C.; and Miss Jane Peel; and collections from seventy-five churches in the diocese, in compliance with the request of a pastoral letter from the Bishop.



seats let to meet the expenses of the church. The entire cost, including all incidental expenses, was £2,030 : 14 : 9. Architect, Mr. T. H. Wyatt.

The Schoolroom, with master's house, was opened in 1854. Cost, £676 : 12 : 6 ; and the parsonage house erected in 1857, at a cost of £705. The sites for church, school, and parsonage, were all presented by the Crown.

The area of the parish is 1,253 a. 3r. 10 p.; population, ; endowment, £280 per ann., *e. g.*,

	£	s.	d.
1. Interest of £2,731 : 7 : 7, subscriptions, in Queen Anne's Bounty, at 3 per cent.	-	-	82 0 0
2. From Ecclesiastical Commissioners	-	-	40 0 0
3. From tithes in Ysceifiog	-	-	158 0 0

There are also six acres and a half of glebe, the gift of the Marquis of Westminster. Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

*Vicar.*—1853. JONES, David, St. David's, Lampeter ; Deacon, 1851 ; Priest, 1852.

#### GREENFIELD.

THE foundation-stone of this church was laid, in the name of the Holy Trinity, on the 15th of August, 1870, by Constance Gertrude, Marchioness of Westminster ; and it was licensed for divine service on the 18th October, 1871. Some twenty years before a room had been licensed for service, for the accommodation of the large and increasing population of the district ; but the building of a church had been delayed, owing to the difficulty of procuring a site, until Mr. Richardson of Greenfield Hall offered a portion of his park, adjoining the high road, for the purpose. The church is designed by Mr. Christian of London, in the style of the thirteenth century ; and when complete will consist of nave with south aisle, and chancel with aisles ; but at present, through lack of funds, only the nave and aisle have been finished. The material used has been local stone of a bluish tint, with dressings of warm coloured Storeton stone ; and the cost, exclusive of site (valued at £100), has been £2,300 ; the principal contributors having been Mr. Keates, late of Greenfield Hall, and family, £600 ; Marquis of Westminster, Bishop Short, and Diocesan Church Building Society, each £200 ; the Incorporated Church Building Society, £150 ; and Jesus College, Oxford, £100.<sup>1</sup> A district has been assigned, but not yet legally attached to the church.

<sup>1</sup> Other sums were, £60 Carey Fund, and £50 each from Canon Jones, Whitehall Dod, and Miss Mesham.

NANNERCH.<sup>1</sup>

THREE of the townships of this parish, Trellan, Trefechan, and Treewm, are in Flintshire; the other, Tre Penbedw, is in the county of Denbigh. The area is about 2,900 acres, of which about 700 acres are mountain. Rateable value, £2,208; and population, 318.

The township of Penbedw, together with Maesmynan and Blowty, was granted by Edward I, after his conquest of the country, to Reginald de Grey, lord of Ruthin; and in 1544 it was again granted, by Henry VIII, to Piers ap Howel, *alias* Peter Mostyn, of Wespres, in consideration of the payment of £73. In this grant it is described as having been part of the possessions of the Earl of Kent in the commot of Dogveilyn, one of the commots in the cantred of Dyffryn Clwyd. There is still some ecclesiastical property originally granted to the see of St. Asaph by Edward in 1281, thence called *Llys Esgob*,<sup>2</sup> and now known as *Maes yr Esgob*, in Trefechan township, containing

<sup>1</sup> "Olim Capel y Wiail yn Rhos." (Bishop Tanner.)

<sup>2</sup> 87A.—"Convencio inter Ep'um et liberos tenentes de Nannerch, per quod ipsi liberi tenentes concedunt Ep'o quoddam boscum, consideratione quod illi boscum Ep'i sine licentia succiderent. A'o 1305. 87B.—Denissio manerii D'ni de Nannerch cum 60 acris terre Madoco Vychan cum tenemento vocato *Llys Esgob* cum molendino et solvet per annum 5 lib., et Bledynt ap Madoc tenet unum tenementum et diversas parcellas terre continentes per estimacionem 30 acras pro xxs."

15 a. 3 r. 8 p. The *Taxatio* of 1291, under "Ecclesia de Nannerch," mentions, "Rectoria taxatur £3; vicaria, £1:13:4; non decimatur." And the *Valor* of 1535, "Rectoria valet clare £8:18:8; inde pro decima parte regi, 17s. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ d." The vicarage is not noticed as distinct; but in 1558 "realis compositio facta est per Tho' Ep'um inter rectorem et vicarium,"<sup>1</sup> and in 1678 the rectory and vicarage were united by Bishop Barrow's Act. The commuted value is £327; in addition to which there is a glebe house, successively repaired in 1790, 1815, 1846, and 1851, and about nine acres of land. Patron, the Bishop.

The old church (St. Mary's), which was taken down in 1852, was in form a parallelogram, with a south porch, a wooden steeple at the west end, and external steps on the south, to ascend to the gallery. The chancel-window bore at one time the inscription, "Orate pro bono statu Howeli ap John ap Dd' ap Ithel," its probable donor. Pennant, in 1778, speaks of the church as small, and noted for little but a monument to Charlotte Theophila Mostyn. In 1791 there were in the church four very fine paintings of the Salutation, the Nativity, the Crucifixion, and the Return of the Prodigal Son. They formerly belonged to Sir Kenelm Digby, and were put here by Mr. Williams of Penbedw.<sup>2</sup> Here, too, according to the same authority, was a "Golgotha with a few bones in it, which I desired might be buried, and the stones applied to repair the churchyard wall."<sup>3</sup>

The new church was commenced on March 22nd, 185 , and was consecrated on the festival of St. Michael and all Angels, 1853. It is built in the Early English style of the thirteenth century, from the plans of Mr. T. H. Wyatt, and consists of chancel and nave, with tower on the south side surmounted by a spire, the base of which forms the entrance porch, the vestry being on the south of the chancel. The handsome reredos, formed of a canopied arcade of Caen stone supported on green marble pillars, and having alabaster panels, is a memorial to Frances Margaret Elizabeth Williams, daughter of the rector, obiit 1864. The east window, of three lights, with geometrical tracery, is filled with stained glass, by Gibbs, illustrative of the Crucifixion and Resurrection in the central, and of the Agony and the Last Supper in the side-lights. There are two other small stained windows on the north side: one figurative, to the memory of Flora Sophia Leonard Williams; and another representative of the Good Shepherd. A rose-window at the west end contains heraldic glass. Two mural tablets,

<sup>1</sup> Liber Institut., 1719.

<sup>2</sup> It appears from the Vestry Book that they had been set up, in 1785, for the ornamentation of the church, and were to be delivered up whenever required. This was done by Major Molineux Williams in 1843.

<sup>3</sup> Rural Dean's Report. There was another instance at Flint, of which he notes, "Here I first observed a Golgotha quite overcharged with human skulls, thigh-bones, etc., close adjoining to the church. We ordered these mementos of mortality to be once more decently interred."



from the old church, commemorate Watkin Williams, M.P. of Penbedw, ob. 1808; and Annabella Puleston, ob. 1824; and that to Mrs. Charlotte Theophila Mostyn has been set up at the west end. The pulpit is of oak, on a stone base. The font, octagonal, with emblematic panels, was the gift of the Rev. D. Roberts, rector of Caerwys, in lieu of the older one, a small marble basin on a pedestal of the same material. The brass chandelier was presented, in 1820, by Elizabeth Williams of Penbedw. The entire cost of the rebuilding was £1,314:13:5. The Registers date from 1664. The older one, beginning 1604, has been lost. An entry in 1720, recording the marriage of Thomas Hughes and Elizabeth Roberts, notifies "License first exhibited."

The National School, built in 1836, is now being rebuilt and enlarged.

The recorded charities are :

1. Rent-charge by John Edwards, 1734, on Tynewyd, £1 : 6.
2. Int. of £20 by Dorothy Hughes, 1691, paid on Penbedw, £1.
3. Bequest of £30 to the church school by Mrs. Elizabeth Lloyd, widow of the rector, in 1842.

## RECTORS.

- 1537.—OWEN, David<sup>1</sup>  
 1558.—ROGERS, Richard<sup>2</sup>  
 1560.—THOMAS AP WILLIAM  
 1566.—RICHARD, Ellis<sup>3</sup>  
 1593.—CONWAY, George  
 1600.—EDWARDS, William<sup>4</sup>  
 1616.—ROBERTS, William  
 1623.—JONES, Richard, B.D.<sup>5</sup>  
 1637.—COLES, Christopher, A.M.  
 1660.—PIERS, Griffith

## VICARS.

- 1537.—WYNNE, Rice<sup>6</sup>  
 1589.—BROWN, Richard  
 1589.—PRICE, J.  
 1617.—MORGAN, J. A. M.  
 1629.—LLOYD, Robert<sup>7</sup>  
 1665.—THOMAS, Lewis  
 1675.—WYNNE, Thomas  
 1682.—JONES, Robert  
 1686.—EDWARDS, J.<sup>8</sup>

## RECTORY AND VICARAGE UNITED.

- 1688.—LLOYD, J.  
 1702.—FFOULKES, David  
 1711.—BADHAM, Arthur  
 1746.—LEWIS, Robert  
 1747.—GRIFFITH, John  
 1774.—LLOYD, John<sup>9</sup>  
 1779.—JONES, Robert  
 1799.—ANWYL, Robert<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> V. Eglwysfach and R. Llanddoget, 1534.

<sup>2</sup> Archdeacon and Suffragan Bishop of Dover, 1560.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llandrillo yn Rhos, 1542.

<sup>4</sup> V. Hope, 1598; V. Mold, 1616.

<sup>5</sup> V. Tremeirchion, 1623; R. Bodfari, 1629.

<sup>6</sup> V. Eglwysfach, 1558; Canon, 1560.

<sup>7</sup> V. Llanasa, 1614; V. Chirk, 1615; V. Llanrwst, 1619; V. Cwm, 1620; S. R. Llandyssil, 1625.

<sup>8</sup> R. Newtown, 1688; R. Llanfyllin, 1691.

<sup>9</sup> R. Caerwys, 1778. The friend and coadjutor of Pennant.

<sup>10</sup> R. Llandrillo-yn-Edeirnion, 1776; V. Bettws-yn-Rhôs, 1811.



1810.—LLOYD, Llewelyn

1841.—HUGHES, John<sup>1</sup>

1845.—WILLIAMS, David, M.A., Jesus College, Oxon.; Deacon, 1835; Priest, 1836; Hon. Canon, 1858; Proctor in Convocation for the clergy of the diocese.<sup>2</sup>

## NORTHOP.

THE older and still used Welsh name for this place is “Llaneurgain,” derived from St. Eurgain, the daughter of Maelgwn Gwynedd, and first founder of the church about the middle of the sixth century. The later name occurs for the first time, as far as I have seen, in the Inquest into the patronage held at Flint in 1310; and had probably only just then been given to it, to distinguish it from its neighbour, Estyn or East Hope, the name of which had about the same time been changed in honour of Queen Eleanor’s visit to Queen’s Hope.<sup>3</sup> The townships are eight in number, viz. Caerfallwch, Golftyn, Kelsterton, Leadbrook Major, Leadbrook Minor, Northop, Soughton, and Wepre; having an area of 8,000 acres, rated at £16,125, and a population of 4,008. From this, however, must be deducted the new ecclesiastical district of St. Mark’s, Connah’s Quay, with its townships of Wepre, Golftyn, Kelsterton, and the two Leadbrooks; and population of 1,750.

The *Taxatio* of 1291 has “Ecclesia de Llanewrgain cum Capella sua de Flynd taxatur,—porcio David ap Kenewr,<sup>4</sup> £10:6:8, dec. £1; porcio Magistri Benedicti, £12, dec. £1:4. Vicaria, £8; dec. 16s.”

In 1310 a dispute arose about the patronage, under the following circumstances. Edward II had, it seems, under his new claim as Prince of Wales, presented “ad Ecclesiam de Northop” a certain clerk named Elias de Shordich, whom Bishop Llewelyn refused to admit. Whereupon the King summoned the Bishop to appear before the Parliament at Stamford, to show cause why he had so refused. To which the Bishop pleaded that the advowson had always belonged to his see, and that neither David, the brother of Llewelyn, nor any other Welsh prince, had ever presented to it as of his own right. Edward thereupon issued a commission to Robert de Hollande, his justiciary at Chester, to make inquisition into the history and circumstances of the case, which was accordingly done at Flint; and after strict examination of many witnesses, it was found that the King’s claim could not be maintained, inasmuch as “Episcopi Assaphenses, qui pro tempore fuerint, temporibus retroactis, ecclesiam illam vacantem (dederant) cuicunque voluerint ut de patronatu suo pertinent jure ecclesie sue

<sup>1</sup> V. Cilcain, 1826.

<sup>2</sup> Rector of Castle Caereinion, 1872.

<sup>3</sup> It has also been supposed to have been once written “North-thorpe,” i. e., the north village.

<sup>4</sup> Apparently the same with one of the portionists of Llansannan.

Assaphensis.”<sup>1</sup> Whether the “portions” had been united in the interval since 1291, and so the church had ceased to be collegiate, does not appear; but I think that this old *collegium* rather than some mediæval monastery supplies the clue to the place still called Mynachlog. In the *Valor* of 1535 we read that “*Rectoria de Northopp valet in decimis granorum et feni, videl’ in villa de Northopp, £6; Caerwallough, £9:10; Gwepray, £10:3:4; Golftyn, £4:13:4; Kelstertyn, £3:10; Llepebroke Vechan, £2; et Flynt, £7:3:4; decimis agnorum et lanæ, £4; lactualibus et oblaconibus, £2; et aliis minutis decimis, £1:16:8; terra glebata, 5s. 4d.; et porcione proveniente de Kylkeyn, 10s.*”;—making a total of £51:12 gross, or £49:14:6 net. “*Inde pro decima parte Regi, £4:19:5 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; vicaria in grosso, £15; clare, £14:6:8; inde Regi, £1:8:8.*”

One feature of interest in the above list is the “portion” received by the rector from Cilcain, as it bears witness to the relationship in which the two parishes seem to have originally stood to one another, as mother and daughter: a relationship further supported, if not by the name of Cilcain, at all events by the tradition which claimed it as Eurgain’s retreat.

The next event was the appropriation of the rectory to the Bishop in lieu of mortuaries, as being the first sinecure in the Bishop’s patronage that fell vacant after the passing of Bishop Fleetwood’s Act.<sup>2</sup> The value, according to the commutation-tables, was returned at £797, and the vicar’s tithes at £500. The rectorial tithes have subsequently fallen in to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners who have out of them, by an Order in Council dated 16 April, 1861, transferred £301:17:3 $\frac{1}{2}$ , arising from the townships of Wepre, Golftyn, and Leadbrook Minor, for the endowment of St. Mark’s, Connah’s Quay; and by another Order, dated in 1871, the sum of £127:15:11, to increase the endowment of St. James’, Rhydmywyn.

The old vicarage house was described in 1791 as a wretched hut, built partly of wattled twigs and clay, and not inhabited by the vicar, who was curate of Hawarden, and dwelt there. An excellent new one was erected in 1826, at a cost of £2,000. There were two acres of glebe; but Vicar Wynne-Eyton bought some additional land, which he offered at a deduction of one-thirtieth per annum, from the date of the purchase to his death; and this was secured by the aid of Queen’s Anne’s Bounty. Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The church, by its several dedications, marks different periods of building and rebuilding: first, St. Eurgain; second, St. Peter; and 3rdly, the small mortuary chapel formerly attached to the north aisle, and dedicated to St. Mary. It was nearly rebuilt in 1840,<sup>3</sup> and consists of chancel and nave, with north aisle and a beautiful tower, its most distinguishing feature. Between the chancel and north aisle there is a Decorated arch; but the roof, pillars, and arcade of the nave, as well as the tower, are of Perpendicular work. Four sepul-

<sup>1</sup> *Llyfr Côch*, 12A, p. 89.

<sup>2</sup> *Suprà*, p. 130.

<sup>3</sup> Cost £1,700.

chral effigies, inserted for their better preservation in niches in the north wall, represent—(1), a knight in chain-armour, much injured ; said by Lewis to be Edwin ap Gronw, a chieftain of Tegengl, who died in 1073 ; (2), a knight in plate-armour, bearing on his shield and on his breast a Maltese cross, probably to indicate one of the Knights of St. John of Malta, and inscribed “Hic jacet Ith. Vach. ap Bledd Vach” ; (3), a canopied figure of a female, inscribed “Llewc.... anno Domini 1482,” and supposed by Pennant to represent the famous beauty, “Lleuci Llwyd”;<sup>1</sup> and (4), a third knight in armour, of the period of Richard II, discovered in digging a grave in the chancel in 1798. The date 1571 is marked on a water-spout in the south-west corner ; and twenty years later is that of the earliest Register. The windows contain much recent memorial glass. That of the chancel, by O'Connor, erected in 1850, by friends and parishioners, to Henry Jones, for twenty-four years vicar of the parish, represents the Crucifixion and the four Evangelists, with the Resurrection in the head tracery. The east window of the north aisle, by Clutterbuck, to Robert Manners Howard, ob. 1839, has the Raising of Lazarus ; and one on the north side, by Ballantyne, to Colonel Robert Howard, ob. 1856, the Annunciation to the Shepherds and the Ascension. On the south side an allegorical window, by O'Connor, in memory of Edward Lewis of Bryn-edwin, ob. 1833, and Mary his wife, ob. 1866, represents the general Resurrection ; and two other emblematic windows, by Clutterbuck, are memorial to Susannah Lloyd, 1855, and Phoebe Lloyd, 1856. The same aisle contains monuments to earlier members of the Hafodunos family,—Howell Lloyd, 1783 ; Dorothea, his wife, 1801 ; and Benjamin Conway, A.M., 1789 ; others,—to the late vicar, Jones, and family ; to the Rev. John Conway-Conway, 1827, etc. ; as also a memorial brass to Richard Howard, D.D., Canon of Bangor and vicar of Llanrhaidr. The church is pewed throughout, and has a gallery under the tower. Under it also stands the font (Perpendicular), and the pulpit and desk rest against the south wall, near the vestry door.

The old FREE SCHOOL was founded by Dr. George Smith, a former sinecure-rector of the parish, who in 1606 left a sum of £600, charged on Pwllhalog estate, in trust, to purchase lands of the value of £30 or more per ann. ; of which sum (to be paid on the font-stone in Northop Church), £20 was to be for the schoolmaster, and £10 for the education of five poor boys from the several parishes with which he was connected, viz. Northop, Flint, Whitford, Cwm, and St. Asaph ; with the proviso, however, that if a schoolhouse and a chamber, or lodging for the master, were not built within a year, or not kept in repair, the School should be transferred to St. Asaph. In 1609 Mr. Kenrick Powell gave a site, and the parishioners built the house, which was repaired in 1831, at a cost of £100, of which sum the National Society contributed £80. The £600 was never laid out in

<sup>1</sup> *Tours in Wales*, i, 115, ed. 1810, where also illustrations are given of the three.



land as intended, but remained a rent-charge on the estate until it was transferred by Mr. Parry, in 1759, to a part of the Llanrhaidr estate, whence the £30 per ann. is still paid out of Tyddyn y Llwyn and Tanybryn. Only two parishes, this and Flint, have ever availed themselves of the share of the £10, the sum of £2 not being sufficient to pay the expenses of boys from such a distance; and the school itself has been merged in the *National School*, which was erected by subscription<sup>1</sup> in 1823. An accumulation of charity moneys, together with interest, and the addition of small bequests, amounting in all to £800, was invested in Turnpike Trust for its endowment. A further sum of £200, at one time in the Holywell Savings' Bank, having been privately withdrawn by one of the wardens, was disposed of for parochial purposes as the instalments were received in repayment.

Another *School* was erected in the hamlet of Rhosesmor in 1858; and it is hoped to erect a church also there, to be endowed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners with the tithes of the township of Caervallwch, in which it is situated.

The principal charity is that of Owen JONES, who in 1658 left lands in Northop and Soughton townships for the education of boys in the school, and apprenticing them out, the increase of the master's salary, remuneration of vicar and wardens, and the help of decayed householders. The lands contain 104 a. 2 r. 33 p., and are rented at £152 : 2 : 6, which, in accordance with an Order in Chancery in 1816, is expended as follows: schoolmaster, £10; vicar, £4 : 10; wardens, £5 : 10; Blue Coat boys, £72. The balance, less expenses, is expended by the vicar and wardens among the deserving poor who have not received parochial relief.

There are also three other rent-charges distributed by the vicar among the poor, *e. g.*, £2 by Lady Catherine HANMER, in 1646, on fields in Hanmer; £1 by Hugh Price WYNNE on Soughton Hall; £1 by Henry KENRICK's bequest in 1609. Other sums enumerated in the Report are £50 from Mrs. Margaret ELLIS, in 1700, for the education of poor female children; £40 by Hugh CARRISON; £20 by Mr. EDWARDS of Soughton; and £10 each by John LLOYD and Blanche, his wife, in 1700; Mr. EDWARDS, 1761; Robert CHRISTOPHER, 1726; Dr. WYNNE, Bishop of St. Asaph, 1727; W. BALL, 1730; Chas. HUGHES, Mr. Robert JONES of Soughton, Mr. JONES of Oakenhall, Mr. Thomas BALL, and Mr. DIX. Of these sums, £43 was laid out a hundred years ago in new leading the steeple, and interest allowed till 1816. The rest went to make up the accumulations mentioned above.

## SINECURE-RECTORS.

1404.—HOLBECHE, Hugh<sup>2</sup>1537.—FOWLER, P.<sup>4</sup>1530.—CONWAY, Peter<sup>3</sup>

1551.—Thos. ap THOMAS or GETHIN

<sup>1</sup> Cost £366 : 13 : 10. National Society gave £100; Marquis of Westminster, the site.

<sup>2</sup> Custos of Flint Chapel, Preb. of Lichfield, Dean of St. Asaph.

<sup>3</sup> Archdeacon of St. Asaph. <sup>4</sup> Priest of St. Winifred's Chapel (p. 469).



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| 1562.—ROBINSON, Nicholas <sup>1</sup>    | 1664.—STONE, William, LL.B. <sup>5</sup>  |
| 1584.—SMITH, George, LL.B. <sup>2</sup>  | 1685.—LLOYD, Edward <sup>6</sup>          |
| 1608.—ELLIS, David, D.D. <sup>3</sup>    | 1687.—BACKHOUSE, Isaac, A.M. <sup>7</sup> |
| 1624.—WILLIAMS, J., A.M.                 | (Annexed to the bishopric in lieu         |
| 1661.—LLOYD, Humphrey, D.D. <sup>4</sup> | of mortuaries.)                           |

## VICARS.

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| 1537.—WOODWALL, Thomas                     | 1672.—WILLIAMS, William                    |
| 1539.—BRERETON, Thomas                     | 1677.—LLOYD, David, A.M. <sup>11</sup>     |
| 1561.—BIERLEY, Thomas                      | 1691.—BALL, William, A.M. <sup>12</sup>    |
| 1571.—EVANS, Hugh, M.A. <sup>8</sup>       | 1717.—CONWAY, Benjamin, A.M. <sup>13</sup> |
| 1577.—DAVIES, Griffith                     | 1747.—BRERETON, Robert <sup>14</sup>       |
| 1582.—HOLLAND, Hugh                        | 1787.—JONES, Hugh, A.M.                    |
| 1590.—EVANS, William <sup>9</sup>          | 1825.—JONES, Henry, A.M.                   |
| 1639.—SPARK, Archibald, B.D. <sup>10</sup> | 1849.—WYNNE-EYTON, R., A.M. <sup>15</sup>  |
- 1866.—WILLIAMS, Thomas, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford ; Deacon,  
1843 ; Priest, 1844 ; R. Flint, 1850-66.

## ST. MARK'S, CONNAH'S QUAY.

THIS new parish was formed out of Northop, and embraces the townships of Wepre, Golftyn, Kelsterton, Leadbrook Major, and Leadbrook Minor ; having an area of 2,825 acres, rental of £3,145, and population, 1,750.

<sup>1</sup> Fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge ; chaplain to Archbishop Parker ; Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1562 ; Bishop of Bangor, 1566. "Vir prudens et illis humanioribus literis atque theologia non minus excultus quam Latina patriâque linguâ facundus." He translated the Life of Gruffydd ap Cynan into Latin, from the old Welsh MS. at Gwydr. (B. W., 401.)

<sup>2</sup> Chancellor of the Diocese, 1595 ; V. Llangernyw, 1574 ; Canon, 1575 ; S. R. Whitford, 1585 ; V. Cwm, 1594. *Founder of the Free School.*

<sup>3</sup> V. Caerwys, 1606 ; Canon, 1623.

<sup>4</sup> Dean of St. Asaph, 1663 ; Bishop of Bangor, 1673.

<sup>5</sup> Principal of New Inn Hall. "He gave the sinecure-tithes to the vicar for preaching some sermons in Flint Chapel, as appears in the Registry Office at St. Asaph." (B. W.)

<sup>6</sup> S. R. first comportion of Llansannan, 1682. Deprived of Northop probably as a Non-juror.

<sup>7</sup> S. R. Llanarmon yn Iâl, 1686-7 ; V. Haselingfield, Cambs.

<sup>8</sup> Dean of St. Asaph, 1560.

<sup>9</sup> V. Nantglyn, 1583.

<sup>10</sup> Prebendary of Llanefydd, 1662.

<sup>11</sup> Prebendary of Faenol, 1671.

<sup>12</sup> V. Holywell, 1682.

<sup>13</sup> Warden of Ruthin, 1713.

<sup>14</sup> R. Liverpool.

<sup>15</sup> V. Llangollen, 1816-49 ; Hon. Canon, 1855 ; Proctor for the clergy in Convocation.

By an Order in Council, 17th April, 1844, a grant of £71 per ann. was made to the incumbent; by another, October 26, 1860, the rectorial tithes of Wepre, Golftyn, and Leadbrook Minor, commuted at £301:17:3½, were vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who were to pay the Bishop of St. Asaph, as rector of Northop, £300 per ann. in lieu thereof; and by a subsequent order, April 16th, 1861, by them transferred to the endowment of the living, which was constituted a rectory the same year. A glebe house was erected in 1841, at a cost of £1,050. Glebe, one acre. Patron, the vicar of Northop.

The church, which is very plain, consists of a nave with a small apse, and a square tower at its west end; and will accommodate 500. It was built at a cost of £1,785, and consecrated August 16th, 1837.

The Schools, built in 1837, and enlarged in 1844 at a cost of £490, will accommodate 200 children, and are now being enlarged by a class-room to hold 70 more; involving, with other recent improvements, an outlay of £700 within the last four years.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES.

1837.—JONES, Robert, B.A., P. C. All Saints, Rotherhithe.<sup>1</sup>

1841.—DAVIES, Morgan, M.A. Previously a chaplain in the H.E.I.C. service.

#### RECTOR.

1860.—WYNNE-JONES, Llewelyn, M.A., Trin. Coll., Dublin; Deacon, 1845; Priest, 1846. Formerly curate of Oswestry. Author of *The New Reformation in Ireland*. Seeleys, 1852.

#### FLINT.

WHATEVER be the true origin of this name,—whether derived from the small stream, “Nant y Flint,” which here empties itself into the Dee; or from the fuller flow, “Fluentum,” of the Dee itself,—there can be little doubt that it represents, though it may not be actually identical with, the earlier Coleshill or Cynsyllt. This name is further suggestive of Roman occupation (*Colonia*),<sup>1</sup> traces of which have been discovered in the direction of the once famous “Croes Ati,” or Atiscross, about a mile eastward of the town, on the Chester road.

The early importance of Atiscross may be seen from the fact that long after it had ceased, if not to exist, at least to be otherwise worth notice, it continued to give its name to the surrounding country, which in *Domesday* is recorded as in the hundred of “Atiscros.” In the interval, however, it would seem as if the town had been transferred from the low ground on the banks of the river to an elevated spot in the adjoining district, thence called “The Colonists’ Hill,” or “Coleshill”;<sup>2</sup> and which, in token of its then greatness, though now of no importance, in its turn has given a name to the hundred, thus sup-

<sup>1</sup> Editor of *Roscoe’s Wanderings in Wales*.

<sup>2</sup> *Colonus Altum*, Consallt or Cynsyllt.

planting in office and in name its older foundation. Coleshill itself, too, after a while suffered the fate it had helped to inflict, when Henry II or Edward I (whichever it was that first realised the importance of the river from a strategic point of view) erected a strong castle on its banks, forming an important link in the chain of border-fortresses which girds the North Wales coast.<sup>1</sup> This migration of site, if we may use the term, seems to derive no little confirmation from the ecclesiastical aspect of the case; for whereas Coleshill is in the adjoining parish, just as it was in 1240, when Prince David gave "the chirche of Halliwelle, with the chapel of Colsul, to the Abbey of Basingwerk",<sup>2</sup> Flint has been generally regarded as in that of Northop, though it has been contended that it was an independent cure. Thus in the *Taxatio* of 1291 we find it as a dependent chapelry of Northop, "*Ecclesia de Lanewrgan cum capella sua de Flynd*"; but in the *Valor* of 1535 we have the following more full and interesting entry of it as an independent parish or rectory: "*Verus valor ecclesie parochialis sive rectorie de Flynte Assaphensis diocesis extractus ex certificatorio Richardi Hurlestone, Edwardi Plainkney, Thome Brickheved, Richardi ap John, Johannis Whitley Senieris, Johannis ap Griff ap Hughe generosorum et Johannis Wine clerici, commissionerum domini nostri Regis Edwardi Sexti Dei gracia Anglie &c. virtute Commissionis dicti domini nostri Regis eis directe de dat' apud Westm' xviii<sup>o</sup> Decembris anno regni sui quinto et in hanc curiam xiii<sup>o</sup> die Januarii anno predicto retornatus et deductus,—Rectoria de Flynte. Dicta ecclesia parochialis sive rectoria de Flinte per sacramentum legalium hominum quorum nomina in dicto certificato continentur,—valet in terris glebe viz. in octava parte unius acre terre vocate 'The Personne's Crofte' annuatim 6*d.* Et in decimo granorum feni lane agnorum et aliarum decimarum £13:6:8; summa £13:7:2. Inde Episcopo Assaphensi pro lactualibus 6*s.* 8*d.*, pro procurationibus annualibus 6*s.* 8*d.*, eidem episcopo singulis trienniis pro ejus visitacione 6*s.* 8*d.*, juxta rationem 2*s.* 2½*d.* per annum et remanet clare £12:6:7¼. Decima inde £1:5:2."*

How long it continued independent does not appear; but according to an old Northop terrier of 168¾, "the tyth of the parish of Flint, worth six and thirty pounds per annum, belonged to the rector of Northop;<sup>3</sup> and as such it passed, with that rectory, to the Bishop of St. Asaph in lieu of mortuaries. The value thereof, according to the Commutation Returns, was £226:19:2 to the perpetual curate, and

<sup>1</sup> Rhuddlan, Conway, Beaumaris, Carnarvon.

<sup>2</sup> This grant and the connexion we have seen to exist between Coleshill, Flint, and Northop, was very likely the cause of Edward's claim to the presentation to Northop, already referred to under that parish.

<sup>3</sup> The real solution of the difficulty would seem to be that Flint Church was originally only a garrison chapel attached to the Castle, locally situate in the parish of Northop; but otherwise, perhaps, free from diocesan control, like the *libera capella* at Denbigh. Its first known incumbent was styled *Warden*.



£84:4:7 to the Bishop. These latter, however, were transferred, in 1863, to the incumbent; and there has been during the present year (1872) a further arrangement, whereby the townships of Leadbrook Major and L. Minor, with a tithe-rent charge of £52 per ann., have been transferred to the rectory of Flint.

A house for the incumbent was purchased in 1863, and altered for his residence at a cost of £937:8:6.<sup>1</sup> Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The old church, St. Mary's, which was taken down in 1847, was on the usual plan of a parallelogram, having a small wooden steeple at the west end, and a north chancel aisle. Its probable date was the latter half of the thirteenth century. Some curious old coffin-lids and inscribed slabs were discovered in its foundations, and the shaft of the old cross was still in the churchyard in 1830.<sup>2</sup> Another feature, once common to our churches, was a Golgotha, which existed here, as at Nannerch, till at least 1791.<sup>3</sup>

The new church, also dedicated in the name of St. Mary, and consecrated December 5th, 1848, consists of a lofty nave<sup>4</sup> with north and south aisles, and a short chancel. It has also a spire at the north-west, and a vestry at the south-east, and is in the style of the thirteenth century. The clerestory windows are in the form of square doublets with shoulder-arches; the east window of three single lancets; the font octagonal, and plain, but standing on an earlier foliated pediment.<sup>5</sup> The chancel, which is not divided from the nave by any arch or other distinguishing feature, has recently been re-seated stallwise, and paved with encaustic tiles, at the expense of the congregation. An organ of eight stops, by Bryceson, was introduced in 1864. The altar-chairs were presented by Mrs. and Miss Muspratt, and the lectern by Mrs. Swanston. A window on the south side, representing SS. Simon and Anna, is memorial to "W. W., 1839, and M. W., 1851," the father and mother of Rev. Thomas Williams, a former rector. Among the mural tablets is one with a medallion portrait, by Spence, to "Julia Josephine Muspratt of Seaforth Hall, ob. 1857." The tower contains two bells and a clock, by Joyce of Whitchurch, which chimes the quarters.<sup>6</sup>

ST. DAVID'S CHAPEL, CROES ATI, PENTRE, has been erected almost

<sup>1</sup> Ecclesiastical Commissioners contributed £400; Queen Anne's Bounty, £200; Bishop Short, £100; and the incumbent, £50.

<sup>2</sup> An illustration of the old church is given in Cathrall's *Wales*, ii, p. 217.

<sup>3</sup> *Suprà*, p. 476.

<sup>4</sup> Much of the effect is lost by the introduction of a boarded ceiling on a line with the wall-plate.

<sup>5</sup> A tablet records that "this church was rebuilt, in 1848, by the voluntary contributions of the landowners, parishioners, and several other freeholders of the county, aided by grants from the Incorporated and the Diocesan Church Building Societies. Ambrose Poynter, architect."

<sup>6</sup> Presented by Sir John Hanmer, Bart., M.P. for the boroughs.



on the site of the ancient cross, whence it derives its name, in order to meet, as both a church and a school, the twofold requirements of a rapidly increasing population.<sup>1</sup> The site was presented by Mr. Edward Williams of Pentre, and the foundation-stone laid by his wife, August 24th, 1871; and the building opened for divine worship, June 13th, 1872. It consists of an apsidal chancel, which is laid with Minton's encaustic tiles;<sup>2</sup> a nave or schoolroom, the furniture being equally adapted for either purpose; and a class-room or vestry; and is calculated to accommodate two hundred scholars or three hundred worshippers. The architect was Mr. Daniel Lewis of Manchester; the style that of the fourteenth century; the material, bricks, red, white, and black, with terra-cotta weatherings for the buttresses and windows; the cost, including boundary-walls, £1,350.<sup>3</sup>

The CEMETERY CHAPEL was consecrated on the 5th Nov. 1856, and has a rose-window at the west end, supposed to represent the Resurrection. In the burial-ground are some recent monuments of good ecclesiastical character.

The handsome *National Schools*, opened on the 19th Jan., 1859, contain rooms for boys, girls, and infants, together with a master's house. The windows have red sandstone dressings and decorated tracery, forming an ornament to the town. Erected at a cost of £2,200, on land presented by Sir John Trelawny, Bart.

The only charities belonging to the parish are a dozen cottages belonging to the poor, erected by the parish<sup>4</sup> on ground given by the Mostyn family; and £2 annually of Dr. Smith's charity at Northop, for a widow's child.

The Registers date from 1598, and with their help we gather, after "Hugh HOLBECHE, Custos" in 1404, the following list of

#### PERPETUAL CURATES.

1603.—PROSSER, John  
1627.—SPICER, Richard

1641.—MORRIS, Henry  
(1648.—EVANS, Edward

<sup>1</sup> Large alkali works have lately been erected by Messrs. Smith and Maudsley; and one of the largest paper-mills in the kingdom, by Messrs. M'Corquodale and Co.

<sup>2</sup> The chancel-step bears an inscription commemorative of the event, and records the names of the Bishop, rector, churchwardens, architect, and contractors.

<sup>3</sup> Towards this a sum of £300 was realised by a bazaar, and grants from the Incorporated Church Building Society, £25; the Diocesan Church Building Society, £22; the Diocesan Board of Education, £70; the Carey Fund, £50; and the following donors,—the Rector, Messrs. Smith and Maudsley, Marquis of Westminster, Messrs. Muspratt and Huntley, M'Corquodale, Bate, Lewis, Whitehall Dod, Adam Eyton, Wm. Chambres, etc.

<sup>4</sup> Probably with some small benefactions, which amounted in the whole to about £80, and are now otherwise lost.

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|--|--|
| 1650.—OWENS, —)                            | 1766.—DAVIES, George <sup>2</sup>          |
| 1664.—THOMAS, Henry                        | 1823.—DAVIES, Chetwood Crewe               |
| 1677.—JONES, John                          | 1824.—JONES, Henry, M.A. <sup>3</sup>      |
| 1707.—HOWELL, H.                           | 1825.—WILLIAMS, W. M., M.A. <sup>4</sup>   |
| 1712.—MYDDELTON, John                      | 1840.—BROWNE, T. B. LL., M.A. <sup>5</sup> |
| 1726.—TAMBERLANE, Robt., A.B. <sup>1</sup> | 1850.—WILLIAMS, Thomas, M.A. <sup>6</sup>  |

1865.—JENKINS, Evan, M.A., Jesus Coll. Oxford ; Deac., 1856 ; Pr., 1857 ; Curate of Northop, 1856-65.

### WHITFORD.<sup>7</sup>

THIS is one of the very few places in the hundred of Atiscros where *Domesday*<sup>8</sup> records the existence of a church ; which we may further infer, from the legend of St. Winifred, to have been the mother church of Holywell, and the ecclesiastical head of the district. Its townships are eight in number, viz. Bychton, Mostyn, Mertyn Isglan, Mertyn Uwchglan, Treabbot, Trellan, Edenowen, and Whitford Garn ; embracing an area of 7,565 acres, rated at £16,286 ; and a population of 3,929,—from which, however, for ecclesiastical purposes, must now be deducted portions of the first four, assigned respectively to the new parishes of Mostyn and Gorsedd ; and leaving to the mother church an area of 3,500 acres, and a population of 1,343.

The *Taxatio* of 1291 has "Eccl'ia de Chwytford tax' Rectoria £10, dec. £1 ; Vicaria, £7 : 6 : 8, dec. 14s. 8d." In the *Valor* of 1535, "Rectoria valet £28 : 17 : 6, dec. £2 : 17 : 9 ; Vicaria, £9 : 11 : 2, dec. 19s. 1½d." The Commutation Returns give £901 : 10 to the sinecure rectory, £340 : 10 to the vicarage, £5 to the parish clerk in lieu of "ysgub y glöch" (the bell-sheaf). The last rector, Mr. Luxmoore, resigned his sinecure, in 1853, to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, on the condition that they would endow therefrom the new church of Gorsedd. The tithes, however, are still held on lease by Lord Mostyn ; but the Commissioners have added to the vicar £21 per ann., by an Order in Council, 3 Feb. 1865.

<sup>1</sup> V. Llanefydd, 1730 ; R. Llanferras, 1743.

<sup>2</sup> R. Llanerfyl, 1776.

<sup>3</sup> V. Northop, 1825.

<sup>4</sup> R. Halkin, 1839 ; R. Llanfechain, 1851.

<sup>5</sup> R. Bodvari, 1850.

<sup>6</sup> V. Northop, 1865.

<sup>7</sup> The origin of the name is uncertain, opinion having hitherto been divided between *Chwithffordd*, in contradistinction to a road along the sea-shore : *Chweffordd*, a name found in Henllan also ; and *Whiteford*, translated into the Welsh *Llanrhydwen*. I have, however, given elsewhere reasons, which seem more interesting and satisfactory, for a Danish origin (p. 27).

<sup>8</sup> Other places noticed here are the vills of Patecain, Mostone, Mereton, Gellilaved, i. e. Bychton, Mostyn, Mertyn, Gellilfydy.

The vicarage house was built in 1809, and partly rebuilt in 1839 at a cost of £800, and there are attached to it six acres of glebe. Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary (but which, I suspect, was at first St. Beuno's<sup>1</sup>), appears to have been originally like the rest of the early Welsh churches, a simple parallelogram, to which a "*Cross Chapel*" was first added, either by Bleddyn Deon, according to Tanner,<sup>2</sup> or by "Bleddyn Drow," according to Pennant. In Pennant's own time this "Cross Chapel" had been prolonged into an *aisle*; for he describes the church as then "consisting of a nave with a good plain tower-steeple, and having besides a side-aisle built by Bleddyn Drow of the house of Mostyn, to whom that part belongs."<sup>3</sup> In 1843 the tower was rebuilt;<sup>4</sup> and in 1846 the church itself was also rebuilt (with the exception of the north wall), and a south aisle added at a cost of £3,000. The general character is Perpendicular; the roof open, a portion of that of the north aisle double, a new one having been placed over the older one. The pews are irregular, and of various forms and colours. An organ occupies the west end. The font is dated 1649.

Among the monuments, the first place must be given, *honoris gratia*, to the eminent naturalist and antiquary, Thomas Pennant of Downing, the historian of the parish, who died in 1798, ætat. seventy-five. His works embraced *The British Zoology*, in 3 vols., 1765, 1768, 1770; *Synopsis of British Quadrupeds*, 1771; *Tour in Scotland*, 1771; *Second Tour in Scotland*, 1774; *Tour in North Wales*, 1st vol., 1778; 2nd vol., 1781; *Journey from Chester to London*, 1782; *Arctic Zoology*, 1784 and 1787; *History of London*, 1789; *Literary Life*, 1793; *History of Whiteford and Holywell*, 1796; *Outlines of the Globe*, 1798. These works were chiefly illustrated by the pencil of a self-taught genius, Moses Griffith, who acted as Pennant's amanuensis, and was for the last years of his life parish clerk of this church. This monument, representing a Muse mourning at the foot of a pillar, with her mantle thrown over her harp, has a medallion of Pennant, and is the work of R. Westmacott junior.

In his very full and interesting history of this parish, Mr. Pennant has given a description of the principal monuments existing in the church in his day; many of them now in the south aisle belonging to members and connexions of his own family,—one, especially a brass, with an inscription composed by himself, to the memory of his faithful old servant, Louis Gold, a benefactor of the parish, who died in 1785. On the north wall there are memorial tablets to Ellis Wynn

<sup>1</sup> P. 466.

<sup>2</sup> MS. Z. No Dean of this name occurs in the list. This, however, is not conclusive against it, but the probability is in favour of the other founder.

<sup>3</sup> *Tour in Wales*, i, 21.

<sup>4</sup> "By the munificence of the Hon. E. M. Lloyd-Mostyn and the Lady Emma Pennant. Ambrose Poynter, architect; Richard Briscoe, vicar."



of Gwydir, with his crest and armorial shield, ob. 1619; and Mr. Richard Coytmore, once vicar of the parish, ob. 1684; and another to Elizabeth, wife of another vicar, William Mostyn, Archdeacon of Bangor, with portraits of husband, wife, and children.<sup>1</sup> She died 1647. On the west wall is a monument to Thomas Thomas of Downing, Esq., by Spence; and other parts of the church have mural tablets to the families of Harrison and Cope.

Under the tower are fragments of several floriated crosses, and the old stoup for holy water. The bells are respectively inscribed with the names of—1, the churchwardens, 1662; 2, Roger Mostyn, Baronet; 3, “Cantate Domino canticum novum, 1662”; recast by E. M. Ll. M., successor to the donor, in 1844. Additional burial-ground was consecrated in 1833, and again in 1872. Over the old lych-gate, on the south side, there is a large room which is used for all parochial meetings.

In pre-Reformation times there existed a chapel at GELLI<sup>2</sup> (since converted into a farmhouse, now cottages), which was served by the monks of Basingwerk, to whom this part was granted, together with the neighbouring township of “Tre'rabbot,” by Edward I. Near Gelli is a most remarkable cross called “MAEN ACHWYNFAN,” i.e., “the stone of lamentation,” supposed to have been originally a memorial of some great slaughter,—such as the nomenclature of the neighbourhood attests must have often occurred,—and to have been the subsequent scene of many acts of contrition and penance. No doubt it was closely connected with the neighbouring chapel, and may have served as its churchyard-cross. It is 11 ft. 6 ins. in height; the head circular, and ornamented with raised Greek crosses of cable-work, curiously interwoven; the four sides also are elaborately ornamented with basket-work, cable interlacings, and animal forms, and present a striking resemblance to the ornamentation of the Runic crosses in the Isle of Man. It is evidently of much earlier date than the grant to Basingwerk Abbey, and probably belongs to the tenth or eleventh century.<sup>3</sup>

Miles Davies, counsellor at law, and author of some rare and curious volumes entitled *Athence Britannica*, a kind of bibliographical, biographical, and critical work (8vo, 1715), was born at Tre'r Abbot. There are seven of them in the British Museum; and an odd specimen of his muse is given in Pennant's *Whiteford*, taken from his *Martii Calendæ, sive Laudes Cambro-Britannicæ*.

A charity school was erected in 1711, at the sole expense of PIERCE JONES of Whiteford; who, moreover, left the interest of £40\* for four poor children, and of £5 for repairs.

<sup>1</sup> Engraved in *Whiteford and Holywell*, p. 107.

<sup>2</sup> Illustrated, together with the parish church, in *Whiteford and Holywell*, p. 102.

<sup>3</sup> Illustrated in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* for 1865, and also in the *Denbighshire Village Churches*, 1871.

<sup>4</sup> In the hands of the Downing family, formerly of Mr. Pennant.



MARY AP ROGERS added £10,<sup>1</sup> date unknown.

In 1745 Mary BRADSHAW bequeathed a bond of £30 and other moneys, amounting to £141 in all, for the education of fifteen poor children. Of this sum, £100 was lost through the Halkin Turnpike Trust, and £31 are in the hands of the proprietor of the Mostyn estate.

N. d.—Mrs. Catherine JONES and Mr. Sydney EDWARDS, each £10,<sup>1</sup> to educate two poor children.

1763.—Jane BALL, £10.

1802.—John DAVIES left £300 in 3 per Cents., now in the hands of the Charity Commissioners, for the benefit of the school.

1837.—“The schoolhouse has lately been added to by the liberality of Mr. Pennant and Mr. Mostyn of Mostyn.” (*Char. Rep.*)

1850.—New school, built at a cost of £260.

The charity of Dr. Smith, rector, 1585-1608, for the maintenance of two poor boys, has shared the same fate with his similar bequests to St. Asaph and Cwm. (*Vide Northop.*)

Other charities belonging directly to the poor are :

1607.—PENNANT, William, left £200, invested in the purchase of Waun Cyrchynan, in St. Asaph, 64 a. 1 r. 23 p., increased in 1811 by an allotment of 5 a. 7 p. for clothing. Annual rent, £45. Trustee, the Earl of Denbigh.

1624.—EDWARDS, Hugh, £10 per ann., for ten suits of apparel; and in 1719, EDWARDS, Thomas, £2 per ann.; both sums paid upon Y Pant in Mertyn Uwchlan.

1707.—VAUGHAN.—Margaret, rent-charge of £4 on the Parsonage, Coed Tyddyn y Berllan, and Cae Pounderling in Tremeirchion, for apprenticing. Trustee, Mr. Pearson Pennant.

—Also £1 : 10 per ann. on Y Marle, for distribution by churchwardens.

N. d.—THOMAS, Catherine, £3 : 5.

1784.—GOLD, Louis, a servant of the Pennant family, bequeathed £20 to the poor of the parish; also £50 each to Mr. Pennant's four children; and £100 to Mr. Thomas Pennant; which sums were all transferred by the aforesaid members to the benefit of the poor. Mrs. Sarah PENNANT added £100, and Mr. David PENNANT, junior, the moiety of £600, which was to be divided between this and Holywell. These sums, amounting to £700, were laid out, in 1835, in the purchase of a rent-charge of £35 per ann. on Wantgwylym in Bodfari.

*Lost :<sup>2</sup>*

1696.—JONES, Peter, of Tre'r Edwin, added a charge of 3s. 4d. per ann. to a similar charge previously existing on a tenement in Mertyn Uwchlan.

1724.—PENNANT, Thomas, Esq., Downing, due to him, in hands of

<sup>1</sup> Interest paid by Mr. Pennant to the overseer.

<sup>2</sup> Some of these appear to have been applied to parochial uses, and the interest paid out of the church rates.

Sir Roger Mostyn, £223; increased in 1739 by Sir Thos. MOSTYN, by a bequest of £178. In the hands of the Mostyn family.

1729.—JONES, Griffith, a charge of 3s. 4d. per ann. on Saith aelwyd.

1748.—GRIFFITHS, Peter, a sum of £100, according to Charity Report, but £200 in an old parish book.

— Sum of £150 received from the sale of confiscated Irish cattle.

N. d.—FFOULKES, Robert, and BULKELY, Thomas, joint sum of £10.

— WYNNE, John and Edward, £40.

— DAVIES, Edward, £10, or 10s. per ann.

## SINECURE RECTORS.

1375.—EDNEVED AP GRIFFITH.<sup>1</sup>

1535.—RICH. AP HOWEL or Price

1536.—HARRISON, Richard<sup>2</sup>

1560.—WHITEFORD, Hugh, LL.B.<sup>3</sup>

1564.—SIDNEY, Philip<sup>4</sup>

1565.—JONES, Griffith

1585.—SMITH, George, LL.B.<sup>5</sup>

1608.—KING, J., B.D.<sup>6</sup>

1624.—KING, Robert, D.D.

Bishop OWEN *in com.*

1632.—GRIFFITH, George, M.A.<sup>7</sup>

1633.—THELWALL, Wm., A.M.<sup>8</sup>

1682.—SWAN, Thomas

1686.—LLOYD, Bp., *in com.*

1690.—MOSTYN, John, A.M.<sup>9</sup>

1722.—MOSTYN, Roger, M.A.<sup>10</sup>

1761.—JEFFREYS, John, A.M.<sup>11</sup>

1808.—GOOCH, J., A.M.<sup>12</sup>

1823.—LUXMOORE, J. H. M.,  
M.A.<sup>13</sup>

## VICARS.

1537.—LLOYD, David

1562.—LEWIS AP JOHN or Gwyn

1586.—MOSTYN, Henry, LL.D.<sup>14</sup>

1591.—HUGHES, Rice

1598.—KYFFIN, Thomas,<sup>15</sup>

1601.—KYFFIN, Edward

1608.—MEREDITH, J.

1617.—LLOYD, Lewis

1638.—MOSTYN, William<sup>16</sup>

1642.—POWELL, Richard

<sup>1</sup> On codicil to will of Leoline, Bishop of St. Asaph, at Lambeth. (W. W. E. W.)

<sup>2</sup> Canon. Said to have been ousted for being married.

<sup>3</sup> "Residens et hospitalis." ("Nondum in sacris ordinibus initiatus"; but in a later hand.) B. W., ii, 140.

<sup>4</sup> Deprived.

<sup>5</sup> Chancellor of the diocese, 1595.

<sup>6</sup> Merton Coll., Oxford; D.D., 1615; Preb. Westminster, 1613; Canon of Windsor, 1615.

<sup>7</sup> Canon, 1631; *Bishop of St. Asaph*, 1660.

<sup>8</sup> Preb. of Meliden, 1661.

<sup>9</sup> Preb. Meifod, 1688.

<sup>10</sup> R. Castle Caereinion, 1772.

<sup>11</sup> Great nephew of Lord Chancellor Jeffreys; Student of Christ Church, Oxford; R. St. Nicholas, Old Fish Street, London, 1746; R. Berkhamstead, 1756; R. Barnes, Surrey, 1792. Received this appointment by the Archbishop of Canterbury's option.

<sup>12</sup> R. Benacre, Suffolk, and Archdeacon of Sudbury.

<sup>13</sup> P. C. Moreton, and Canon, 1823; V. St. Martin's, and R. Marchwial, 1824; Preb. Meifod, and S. R. Llanarmon yn Ial, 1826.

<sup>14</sup> Chancellor of Bangor, and R., first of Aberdaron, then of Llanllechyd.

<sup>15</sup> V. Welshpool, 1600; V. Berriew, 1608; Preb. Meifod, 1614.

<sup>16</sup> R. Christleton, dioc. Chester, and last Archdeacon of Bangor, 1633, before it was annexed to the bishopric.

MOSTYN, Humphrey <sup>1</sup>	1697.—DAVIES, Edward
(1653.—SMITH, William) <sup>2</sup>	1730.—GRIFFITHS, Griffith
1661.—EDWARDS, Robert <sup>3</sup>	1765.—FFOULKES, John, S.C.L.
1666.—ROBERTS, William	1811.—ROBERTS, Edward
1668.—COYTMORE, Richard <sup>4</sup>	1839.—BRISCOE, Richard, D.D. <sup>5</sup>
1686.—PRICE, Hugh	

1685.—DAVIES, THOS. Zephaniah, M.A., Jesus Coll., Oxon., Scholar; Fourth Cl. Litt. Hum., 1843; R. Llanddulas, 1858-65; Rural Dean of Holywell, 1868.

### ST. PAUL'S, GORSEDD.<sup>6</sup>

THE occasion of the erection of this church has been already told in the account of its sister foundation, St. Michael's, Brynford.

By an Order in Council, 19th August, 1853, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners constituted this district out of the parishes of Whitford and Ysceifiog, and endowed it with £150 per ann. out of the rectorial tithes of the former, which had been resigned into their hands by the last sinecure rector, Mr. Luxmoore, on the condition that this church should be endowed therefrom. This was further augmented by a sum of £1,000, Three per Cents., arising from the balance of the subscriptions,<sup>7</sup> and a donation of £350 by Dean Luxmoore for that purpose. And by an Order in Council, 3 Feb., 1866, a further sum of £129 per ann. was added by the Commissioners.

The house was erected in 1853, at a cost of £1,159 : 4 : 4, and has two acres of glebe attached.

Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The foundation-stone of the church was laid on Easter Monday, 1852, by the Hon. E. M. Lloyd-Mostyn, the donor of the site; and it was consecrated on the 25th October, 1853. The plan consists of chancel, nave, and baptistery, with a vestry on the north side; and a tower surmounted by a spire, with the basement (as at Mostyn) forming the principal entrance. The walls are built of the local limestone,

<sup>1</sup> Deprived.

<sup>2</sup> V. Llanasa, also (1653) under Cromwell.

<sup>3</sup> V. Corwen, 1653; Canon, 1675.

<sup>4</sup> R. Aber.

<sup>5</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford; C. Llangollen, 1831-33; P. C. Henllan, 1833-39; Proctor in Convocation for the clergy; R. Nutfield, Surrey, 1865; author of a *Visitation Sermon*, 1858.

<sup>6</sup> "A throne," Druidic or Bardic. Two large stones, about six feet apart, and each about six feet high, used to be regarded with a good deal of veneration at the actual Gorsedd. They stood where the churchyard now is, and were removed, when the church was built, to a neighbouring field, where they now serve as gateposts.

<sup>7</sup> These subscriptions, etc., amounting in all to £10,806 : 6 : 10, were collected by the Rev. Canon Hugh Jones, vicar of Holywell, and the Rev. Dr. Briscoe, vicar of Whitford.



and the windows and spire of Gwespyr stone. Internally it is lined with brick. The style is Early English, of the thirteenth century; and the architect, Mr. T. H. Wyatt. The Communion-plate, consisting of chalice, flagon, paten, and alms-dish, was the gift of Lady Mary Fielding; and the font, as at Brynford, presented by the architect. The cost, including site and boundary-walls, was £2,331 : 16 : 1. Sitings, two hundred and thirty.

The School, also erected in 1853, with a good house and garden attached, cost £689.

*Vicar*.—1853. JONES, Edward Evans, St. Bees; Deacon, 1849; Priest, 1850 Curate of Llandderfel, 1850-1; P. C. Rhesycae, 1852.

### CHRIST CHURCH, MOSTYN.

THE townships of Bychton, Mertyn Isglan, and a portion of Trefostyn, in Whitford, were constituted into a new district by an Order in Council, 3 June, 1844; embracing an area of about 2,600 acres, extending four miles in length by two in breadth, and containing a population of 2,022, chiefly engaged in colliery and mining.

The living, originally a perpetual curacy, now a vicarage, is endowed with £292 per annum, and has a house with four acres of glebe, and is in the patronage of the Bishop. The endowment arises from a benefaction of £1,000 by the Rev. Thomas Pennant and Lady Emma Pennant, met with a similar sum by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and raised to £150 per ann., and from the interest of another benefaction of a similar amount by the same donors,<sup>1</sup> to which £112 were added by an Order in Council, 3 Feb., 1866. The house was erected in 1851, at a cost of £1,000, equally borne by the Lady Emma Pennant and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The outbuildings, promised by the same generous benefactress before her death, were built by the Viscount Fielding at a cost of £600.

The church, consecrated August 12th, 1845, is in the Early English style, and consists of chancel and nave, with a tower on the north-west, surmounted by a spire, the basement forming a porch, and a vestry at the south-east. The chancel has a reredos of panelled oak, inscribed with the Creed, Lord's Prayer, and Commandments. The east window, of three lights, with geometrical tracery, contains memorial glass to Thomas Pennant, erected by his widow. The corona, presented by Viscount Fielding, has the inscription, "In Thy sight shall we see light." The nave is open seated; and the roof, of open timber work, of wide span. A gallery occupies the west end. The font is octagonal, on a pillared base, and has its panels ornamented with foliated crosses. The seats are provided for 516, of which

<sup>1</sup> An additional sum of £144 : 16 : 6 was put into the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to secure £3 : 6 : 6 per ann. for the clerk.



number 436 are to be free for ever. The total cost was £4,063:14:7. Architect, Mr. R. Kyrke Penson.

The Schools were erected in 1844, and cost £1,402.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES.

1844.—PUGHE, Richard, B.A., Jesus College, Oxford; P. C. Meliden, 1843-4; R. Llanycil, 1852.

1852.—ROBERTS, David, St. Bees; Deacon, 1851; Priest, 1852; C. Ysgeifiog, 1851.

#### YSGEIFIOG.<sup>1</sup>

THIS parish consists of the seven townships of Bodingen, Garneddwen, Gellilyfdy, Trellan ucha, Trellan isa, Trefraith, and Prysau; embracing an area of 5,857 acres, of the rateable value of £5,778, with a population of 1,375. For ecclesiastical purposes, however, a portion of the townships of Trellan ucha and Garneddwen has been transferred to Rhesycae by an Order in Council dated June 27, 1848; another portion of Trellan ucha, and a part of Prysau, to Brynford, by an Order in Council, March 31st, 1854; and a portion of Gellilyfdy to Gorsedd, by an Order in Council, 19th August, 1853. Population left to the mother church, 1,112.

Pope Nicholas' *Taxatio* shews the church to have been at that time, A.D. 1291, divided between two portionary rectors and a vicar: "Ecclesia de Skeyvauc,—Rectoria, porcio Bledyn ap Eynon, £4:6:8; dec., 8s. 8d. Porcio Mag'r'i Will'mi, £2:13:4; non dec. Vicaria, £6; dec., 12s." The *Valor Eccles.*, 26 Henry VIII, mentions only one rector, and gives his income as £18:10:9; indec. Regi, £1:17:1; and that of the vicar as £6:2:6; dec., 12s. 3d. In 1678, Bishop Barrow assigned the sinecure rectory, which he then held *in commendam*, "to the repairs of the cathedral church, and to the augmentation of the revenue of the choir, until such time as the sinecure rectory of Llanrhaiadr yn Mochnant should become vacant, and available for that purpose; and he further provided that when this rectory should be released from the burthen, it should be united to the vicarage, and the then vicar become the first rector of the united parts." Half the tithes of Trellyniau, in Cilcain, also belonged to the rector; but whether by virtue of this being the mother church, or by way of accommodation, which is the more likely, does not appear. The Commutation Returns (1836) gave the value of the rectorial tithes as £845; but from this must now be deducted the rent-charge accruing

<sup>1</sup> Either "abounding in alders," forty-four of which trees Edward Llwyd, the author of *Archæologia Britannica*, counted near the churchyard in 1698-1699; or "the hunting ground," from *ysgafael*, game. The same name occurs in Anglesey, in Llanfihangel Ysgeifiog.

<sup>2</sup> "Cheslilaved" as well as "Shiviau" occur in *Domesday*.

from the three new districts, which has been apportioned between Brynford (£69:18) and Rhesycae (£69:18:3). The rector has a good house and 9 a. 2 r. 32 p. of glebe. Patron, the Bishop of Llandaff, by virtue of the recent transfer from St. Asaph.

The church, St. Mary's (Sept. 8th), was rebuilt in 1837, after the Early English, or rather the transition Norman style, from the plans of Mr. Welsh, the architect of the Birmingham Town Hall, and of many churches in the Isle of Man similar to this. It consists of a chancel and nave, with a western tower, and a vestry on the north-east. The chancel-window, of three lancet lights, contains memorial glass by Hardman,—the central light, Our Lord as the Resurrection, to Canon William Williams, rector of the parish, ob. 1835; and the side lights, representing Martha and Mary respectively, to Eliza Murhall Griffith, ob. 1845, and Henrietta M. Jones (Wevre) ob. 1826. The nave has a low, flat ceiling, and a gallery at the west end, and the walls are traced with scrolls and texts in Welsh. The font is but a poor substitute for the handsome but much injured Perpendicular one now preserved in the vestry.

The older church, which the present one superseded, is described as "an ancient and spacious edifice, partly Norman and partly in the Early English style of architecture, with a massive and lofty tower of very rude construction. It consists of a nave and chancel, with a large chapel or chantry on each side of the latter, lighted by ranges of lancet-shaped windows. On the north side of the nave there is a very elegant Norman doorway, now walled up, the mouldings of which are richly ornamented, and in an excellent state of preservation."<sup>1</sup> The body, however, of the church was in such a state of dilapidation that divine service had at that time to be discontinued, and it was finally taken down in 1835. From an undated petition of the early part of the last century to the Bishop of the diocese, relative to a seat in the north chancel aisle, it appears that only three houses in the township of Gellilyfdy had seats in the church; but this, no doubt, may be accounted for by the existence of the chapel at Gelli in that township. Possibly, too, the "*porcio Magistri Will'mi*" of the *Taxatio* may have been closely connected with this and the yet earlier Maen Achwynfan.

In digging out a cellar for the heating apparatus, some few years ago, the remains of a still earlier church than the one pulled down in 1835 were discovered, no portion of that church having stood over the spot.

Under the tower, which also forms the entrance porch, is preserved the canopied effigy of a priest in his vestments; and in the churchyard, near the chancel-window, may be seen a fragment of an early and elegantly designed monumental slab, the cross being formed of a star and fleur-de-lis. A local poet named William Edwards, but

<sup>1</sup> Lewis' *Topographical Dictionary*, 1833. This entirely corroborates the accuracy of one of Moses Griffith's drawings of it taken in the year 1780.

better known as "Gwilym Callestr neu Fardd Ysgeifiog," ob. 1835, is commemorated by a pyramid. The historical allusion, on another monument, to "the upstart sect of the brain-sick Methodists," is referred to in an article on Methodism in the *Quarterly Review*, 1846.<sup>1</sup>

The National School was erected in 1817, and enlarged in 1851, at a cost of £300.

Three benefaction-tables in the old church recorded the following bequests, amounting in the whole to £125 :

£50 by David HUGHES; £20 by Mr. FLINT of Holywell, 1774; £12 by DAVID AP ROBERT and William DAVID his son; £10 each by William PIERCE, Hugh DAVIES, Hugh JONES, Peter VENABLES, in 1772, and £3 by Thomas PHILLIPS. There were added to these, £26 by Robert MATTHEWS in 1792, and £5 by Robert PARRY. The sum total, amounting to £156, was invested partly (£111) in building a house for picking cotton, in 1794; and the remainder, £45, in a mortgage on Penygraig. The present interest is £7:5.

There was also a rent-charge of twenty-six shillings on *Gledlon*, left by Mr. John WYNNE for bread for the poor every Sunday, and regularly paid by the last possessor, Miss Mostyn Edwards, within present memory; but the present owner, Ll. Faulkner Lloyd, has declined to pay it.

John Jones of Gellilyfdy, an attorney in the court of the Marches of Wales, was an indefatigable collector of Welsh MSS. From 1590-1630 he transcribed about fifty large volumes, which, in consequence of an agreement with the celebrated antiquary, Robert Vaughan of Hengwrt, that the survivor should have the benefit of the other's labours, were transferred, on his death, to the Hengwrt Library, and are now preserved at Peniarth.

#### SINECURE RECTORS.

1312.—BLEDDYN AP KENWRIC	1590.—MOSTYN, Harry, LL.D. <sup>3</sup>
1524.—GLYN, William, LL.D. <sup>2</sup>	1616.—GOODMAN, Godfrey, D.D. <sup>4</sup>
1537.—JEFFREY AB JOHN	1621.—LLOYD, Richard, D.D. <sup>5</sup>
—— JANNING, Griffith	1642.—LLOYD, Evan, M.A. <sup>6</sup>
1555.—JONES, Griffith	Bp. BARROW <i>in com.</i>

<sup>1</sup> Written by the Rev. Dr. Rowland Williams, the author of *Rational Godliness*, etc., son of the rector.

<sup>2</sup> Archdeacon of Anglesey, 1524; Comportionary Rector of Llandinam, S. R. Clynnog Fawr, Prebendary of Clynnog Fechan, and R. of Llandwrog and Llanengan. Ob. 1537.

<sup>3</sup> Chancellor of the diocese of Bangor, 1586; V. Whitford, 1586; R. Llanllechid and Canon of Bangor, 1600. He was of Talacre, and has an armorial tablet to his memory in Llanasa Church. Ob. 1616.

<sup>4</sup> S. R. Llandyssil, 1607 (*q. v.*); *Bishop of Gloucester*, 1624.

<sup>5</sup> R. Marchwiall, 1614; V. Rhuabon, comportioner of Llansannan, Canon of St. Asaph, and D.D., 1617. Father of Humphrey Lloyd, Bishop of Bangor, 1673.

<sup>6</sup> V. Holywell, 1635. Deprived by the Committee of Sequestrators.

## VICARS.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1537.—IEUAN AP JOHN                    | 1639.—GRIFFITH, Rice, A.M. <sup>3</sup> |
| 1544.—ROBERT AB ITHEL                  | 1641.—EDWARDS, I.                       |
| 1569.—DICKENSON or JONES, T.           | —— PRICE, Rice                          |
| 1590.—WILLIAMS, Peter <sup>1</sup>     | 1660.—KYFFIN, David, A.M.               |
| 1595.—BIRCHINSHAW, Thomas              | 1661.—PUGH, Henry                       |
| 1614.—MOSTYN, Simon, A.M. <sup>2</sup> | 1662.—ASHPOOL, Elisha                   |
| 1615.—LEWIS, Evan                      | 1697.—WYNNE, Thomas <sup>4</sup>        |
| 1637.—DAVIES, Joseph                   |   |

## RECTORS WITH VICARAGE UNITED.

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1702.—PARRY, Henry <sup>5</sup>      | 1770.—SHIPLEY, W. Davies, M.A. <sup>8</sup> |
| 1704.—PRICE, Elis, M.A. <sup>6</sup> | 1826.—WILLIAMS, William, M.A. <sup>9</sup>  |
| 1762.—PRICE, John, B.A. <sup>7</sup> | 1836.—WILLIAMS, Rowland, M.A. <sup>10</sup> |

1855.—ROBERTS, Robt. Jones, M.A., New Inn Hall, Oxford ; Deac., 1837 ; Pr., 1838 ; curate of Llangernyw, 1837-38 ; Dissertth, 1838-43 ; R. Denbigh, 1843-55.

<sup>1</sup> R. Manafon, 1696 ; R. Marchwiall and Preb. Meifod, 1598 (p. 255).

<sup>2</sup> Canon, 1617 ; V. Rhuddlan, 1618 ; Preb. Llanfair and V. Cwm, 1623.

<sup>3</sup> V. Nantglyn, 1635 ; V. Mold, 1641.

<sup>4</sup> R. Llanrwst, 1714 ; Canon, 1720.

<sup>5</sup> V. Llandrillo in Edeirnion, 1704 ; V. Llanfor, 1709 R. Llandyssil, 1719.

<sup>6</sup> V. Holywell, 1700-63. <sup>7</sup> Son of Elis Price. V. Cilcain, 1749-62.

<sup>8</sup> Dean and Chancellor of the diocese (p. 244).

<sup>9</sup> Canon, 1827 (p. 258).

<sup>10</sup> Canon, 1809 (p. 260).



## THE DEANERY OF LLANGOLLEN.

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THIS rural deanery was formed by the subdivision, in 1844, of that of Marchia into those of Llangollen and Oswestry; and by the transfer to it, in 1849, of Llandysilio from Mold. The parishes of which it is constituted, together with deaneries under which they were ranged in the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas, A.D. 1291, are as follows:

1872	1291
Chirk, Llangollen, ( <i>Trevor Chapel, Pont Fadog</i> ), Llan-	DEANERIES.
santffraid . . . . .	...Nantheudwy
Llanarmon, Llansilin . . . . .	...Cynlleth
Llanrhaiadr, Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr, Llangadwal-	
adr, Llangedwyn . . . . .	...Mochnant
Llanyblodwell . . . . .	...Marchia
Llandysilio . . . . .	...Ial et Ystradalun.

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### CHIRK.

This, which may be regarded as the English name of the place, is a corruption of "Ceiriog," the name of the river on which it stands. The Welsh and earlier name, by which, too, it still continues to be known, is "Y Waun," *i. e.*, "the plain or table-land." Five townships constitute the parish, viz., Chirk, Brynkinallt, Halton, Gwernospin, and Penyclawdd,<sup>1</sup> forming an area of 4,649a. 2p., rated at £11,182:10:11, with a population, partly agricultural and partly mining, of 1,919.

The earliest notices that occur of it claim it as an appropriation of the Abbey of Valle Crucis, and describe it as a *capella* or chapelry of Llangollen.<sup>2</sup> In the *Taxatio* of 1291 we find it returned under the deanery of Nantheudwy as "Eccl'ia de Eweun,—Rectoria, £6; dec., 12s. Vicaria, £2; non. decim'." And in the *Valor* of 1535, under

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<sup>1</sup> In 1681 the townships were seven, Chirk being divided into Upper and Lower, and Hendreginon additional.

<sup>2</sup> See the great controversy between the Abbot and the Bishop relative to the patronage, under Llangollen, and also p. 43 *suprà*.

the deanery of Marchia, the rectorial tithes appropriated to the Abbey are valued at £11:15:5, and the vicarial at £6:13:4 gross; £6:10:9 net; decima, 13s. 1d. At the Dissolution the manor or monastery of Valle Crucis was granted by Edward VI on lease to Sir William Pickering, Knight, whose daughter Hester married Sir Edward (afterwards created Baron) Wootton, to whom the grant was renewed. His second wife, Margaret, who was in possession in 1654, was a recusant, and it was put in sequestration by Cromwell to Edward Davies, y Cneifiwr Glâs.<sup>1</sup> It is said that Lord Wootton, in order to raise money, charged the tithes of Chirk with a fee-farm rent of £62 14s., payable to the then owner of Brynkinallt; and that the remainder was parted with, probably after the Restoration, subject to the said rent, to the owners of land, so that they came at length into the hands of the Myddeltons; and the last Sir William Myddelton, who died in 1717-8, restored to the church<sup>2</sup> the tithes of which he was possessed; subject, however, to the aforesaid charge, which is paid to Lord A. E. Hill-Trevor, M.P., by the vicar out of the tithes, which were commuted at £570 10s.<sup>3</sup>

The old parsonage, which is still standing in the vicarage grounds, was erected by vicar Roberts, 1709-41; and the new one in 1853, by Mr. Maude, at a cost of about £2,000. Attached to it are 2 a. 1 r. 37 p. of glebe. Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The church, St. Mary's (Sept. 8), consists of two equal aisles, having the chancel in the southern, a tower at the west end of the northern one, and a western gallery to both. Its general character is Perpendicular; the prayer-desk and pulpit being of Jacobean work. The font bears the date 1662, and answers to the silence of the Register during the Commonwealth. The closed door and the buttresses on the south side indicate other alterations and repairs. The monuments are numerous, the most imposing being a handsome marble one on the south wall, with portrait effigies of Sir Richard Myddelton, ob. 1716; Dame Frances his wife, ob. 1694; and Sir William,<sup>4</sup> ob. 1717½. On the east wall there are others,—to Elizabeth Myddelton, mother and child, 1675; Sir Thomas,<sup>5</sup> 1666; and Maria, 1674. Monumental brasses commemorate Samuel Myddelton, 1678; Elias Durance, a French refugee, chaplain to Sir Richard Myddelton, 1715; Walter Balcanquall, S.T.P., a Scotch divine, who represented his country at

<sup>1</sup> *Arch. Cambrensis*, i, p. 31; iv, p. 25.

<sup>2</sup> Chirk was one of the vicarages for the augmentation of which the confiscated tithes of the Marquis of Powis were transferred to the Bishop of St. Asaph and Coventry in 1693. (*Suprà*, p. 126.)

<sup>3</sup> £5 of this in lieu of Easter dues. 580 a. 2 r. 29 p. are exempt from tithes, and there was a modus of two shillings on New Hall Farm.

<sup>4</sup> Sir William was a great benefactor to Chirk, Llangollen, Llansantffraid, Rhuabon, and Ysppyty Ivan parishes.

<sup>5</sup> The great Parliamentary general, who afterwards joined the Royalists, and was besieged in his own castle by Lambert, who damaged it to the extent of £80,000.

the Synod of Dort in 1618, and was successively Dean of Rochester and of Durham. The epitaph, in Latin, is from the pen of Bishop Pearson of Chester, the learned expositor of the Creed. There are also tablets to Charlotte Myddelton Biddulph, 1843; Robert M. Biddulph of the 23rd Welsh Fusiliers, who died at Malta, 1863; to Charlotte Elizabeth Maude, sister of Colonel M. Biddulph, and wife of the Rev. Charles W. Maude, rector of Great Munden, Herts, 1871; and to members of the families of Ffoulkes of New Marton, Salop, and late of New Hall in this parish, 1685; Jebb, Lovett, Hill-Trevor of Brynkinallt, etc. In the *Diary of Richard Symonds*,<sup>1</sup> written during the civil wars, there is a description of some armorial glass in the "south window, chancel; east window, north yle; and the north window, same yle; with an inscription beneath the last, 'Orate pro a'i'bus Will'i Edwards ..... arm..... Lloyd fratris ejus et omniu' parochia ..... et pro a'i'bus om..... qui hanc capellam fieri fecerunt a'o d'ni m..... decimo nono.'" This chapel now forms the Chirk Castle seat, but there are no remains of the stained glass in existence.

A school church was built at Pentre, and opened in 1866, for the accommodation of that part of the parish, and services are held therein on Sundays.

There are two schools in the village, one built by Mrs. Myddelton Biddulph in 1824,<sup>2</sup> and the other erected in 1845 at a cost of £450.

There is a private chapel in the Castle; but no use is made of it at present, or has been within memory.

*Charities.*—1. Mrs. Katherine TREVOR, sister of Sir John Trevor of Brynkinallt, in 1698 gave lands at *Pentrevelin* in Llandysilio (19 a. 30 p., now rented at £50 per ann.), and *Tynybedw* in Llanrhaidr yn Cimmeirch (30 a. 2 r. 13 p.; rental, £20 per ann.), the proceeds to be distributed "to the ancientest poor of this parishe in the week before Whitsuntide."

2. One of the Myddeltons of Chirk Castle gave a rent-charge on that estate of £12 per ann.

3. Another unknown donor, of the same family, founded a charity for six poor widows, who receive six shillings each per quarter.

4. Sir William MYDDELTON gave £100, the interest to be annually divided; also half a measure of wheat and half a measure of barley to be given, through fifty weeks of the year, among twenty poor people of the parish.

#### VICARS.

1536.—ELLIS, Thomas<sup>3</sup>

1560.—RICUS AP ROBERT

1592.—EDWARDS, John<sup>4</sup>

1611.—LLOYD, Robert

<sup>1</sup> Published by the Camden Society, 1859, pp. 252, 253.

<sup>2</sup> This had previously been carried on in the vestry at the north-west corner of the church. Two sums of £20 each, one by Mrs. Mary Bennett, the other anonymous, and one of £5 by Major Charles Myddelton, were left at different times towards it.

<sup>3</sup> R. Penegoes and V. Llandrillo yn Rhos.

<sup>4</sup> Deprived.



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1614.—NICHOLAS, David <sup>1</sup>       | 1741.—SMYTHE, Richard                      |
| 1615.—LLOYD, Robert, A.M. <sup>2</sup>   | 1744.—MAURICE, Peter, B.A. <sup>6</sup>    |
| 1660.—HUGHES, Michael <sup>3</sup>       | 1760.—PRICE, David, LL.B.                  |
| 1680.—SMYTHE, Thomas, B.D. <sup>4</sup>  | 1803.—HORSELEY, Heneage, M.A. <sup>7</sup> |
| 1709.—ROBERTS, Robert, A.M. <sup>5</sup> | 1804.—ROBSON, George, M.A. <sup>8</sup>    |

1852.—MAUDE, Joseph, M.A., Queen's College, Oxford ; first class, Math. et Phys., 1826 ; Deac., 1828 ; Pr., 1829 ; curate of St. George's, Bloomsbury, under Dr. Short ; chaplain to him when Bishop of Sodor and Man, 1840 ; ditto, St. Asaph, 1846 ; Hon. Canon of St. Asaph, 1854 ; Rural Dean of Llangollen.

### LLANARMON, DYFFRYN CEIRIOG.<sup>9</sup>

THE three townships of this parish, Tre'rllan, Llowarch, and Lloran, contain 9,305 acres of the rateable value of £1,894, with a population of 324.

The *Taxatio* of 1291 has "Ecclesia de Llanarmaior<sup>10</sup> in Diffrinkeyriauc taxat' £4 : 6 : 8 ; dec., 8s. 8d." ; and the *Valor* returns the "Rectoria at £8 : 11 : 8 ; dec., 17s. 2d." The Commutation Returns assigned £221 : 10<sup>11</sup> to the rector, and £5 to the parish clerk.

A new rectory house was built in 1869, at a cost of £600, in lieu of a previous one erected about the year 1715, and there are attached to it about twenty-six acres of glebe. The patronage was transferred by the late Act from the Bishop of the diocese to the see of Llandaff.

The church, which is dedicated to S. Garmon or Germanus, whom an early tradition states to have been "buried under a plain stone in the church,"<sup>12</sup> was rebuilt in 1846, and consists of a plain nave with a western tower ending above in a small spire, and forming beneath the

<sup>1</sup> Canon, 1601 ; R. Garthbeibio, 1602-14 ; V. Llandyssil, 1615.

<sup>2</sup> V. Llanrwst, 1619 ; V. Cwm, 1620 ; S. R. Llandyssil, 1625.

<sup>3</sup> S. R. Llandyssil, 1660 ; Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1676.

<sup>4</sup> R. Llanferres, 1688 ; R. Marchwial, 1691.

<sup>5</sup> Author of a "Catechism Preparatory to Receiving the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, in Welsh and English, 1720, for the use of the parish of Chirk, whose inhabitants are partly Welsh and partly English."

<sup>6</sup> R. Llandderfel, 1760.

<sup>7</sup> Son of Bishop Horseley ; V. Gresford, 1802-47 ; Preb. of Llanfair, 1803 ; R. Castle Caereinion, 1804-47. Resident in Edinburgh.

<sup>8</sup> Preb. of Llanfair, 1803 ; R. Erbistock, 1805-51.

<sup>9</sup> St. Germanus (Garmon's) in the Vale of Ceiriog.

<sup>10</sup> *Alias* "Llanarmaun."

<sup>11</sup> There was a modus of £2 on Hafod in Cwm Llawenog, which is the amount of tithe still paid by it.

<sup>12</sup> MS. Z.



entrance to the church. In taking down the old church about twenty rose-nobles of Edward IV, and a number of silver coins of the same reign, were discovered; some of which were purchased by the late Lord Dungannon, and the rest by the British Museum. Some portion of the proceeds was laid out in the purchase of sacramental plate.

The National School was built about forty years ago. Exact date not known.

*Lost Charity*.—A sum of £48, left by Mr. Thomas Humphreys, was applied to parochial uses, and the interest lost.

## RECTORS.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1388.—THORPE, Alan, A.M. <sup>1</sup>    | 1739.—WILLIAMS, Charles                 |
| 1537.—REGINALD AP I'ENN                  | 1742.—PARRY, Henry                      |
| 1558.—HUGH AP DAVID <sup>2</sup>         | 1759.—OWEN, Thomas                      |
| 1562.—WILLIAM AP ROBERT                  | 1768.—JONES, John, A.M. <sup>6</sup>    |
| 1616.—FFOULKES, Robert, A.M.             | 1783.—WILLIAMS, John                    |
| 1619.—PARRY, Hugh, A.M.                  | 1796.—DAVIES, Edward, A.M.              |
| 1642.—MEREDITH, J., D.D. <sup>3</sup>    | 1811.—ROBERTS, Peter, A.M. <sup>7</sup> |
| 1662.—VAUGHAN, Edward, A.M.              | 1819.—JONES, John                       |
| —— PRITCHARD, Edward                     | 1821.—GRIFFITHS, William                |
| 1667.—ROBERTS, William                   | 1825.—WILLIAMS, William                 |
| 1687.—WILLIAMS, Thomas                   | 1837.—DAVIES, Morgan                    |
| 1702.—HUGHES, Edward <sup>4</sup>        | 1843.—DAVIES, David <sup>8</sup>        |
| 1716.—EDWARDS, George, A.B. <sup>5</sup> |   |

1848.—JONES, David, A.M., Jesus College, Oxon.; Deac., 1839; Pr., 1840; Master of Denbigh Grammar School, and curate of Nanerch, 1839-41; curate of Meifod, 1841-48.

<sup>1</sup> "Sir Alan Thorpe, late R. Llanarmon, dioc. Assav., was admitted to Clungunford, Salop, at the presentation of Richard Earl of Arundel and Surrey," 1388. (Eyton's *Shropshire*, xi, 302.)

<sup>2</sup> R. Mallwyd, 1539; R. Llanwyddelan, 1556.

<sup>3</sup> Fellow of All Soul's, Oxford, and of Eton, and Master of Wigston's Hospital, Leicester. Deprived of all during the Commonwealth; but at the Restoration himself also restored, and subsequently elected Warden of All Souls and Provost of Eton.

<sup>4</sup> V. St. Martin's, 1720.

<sup>5</sup> V. Bettws yn Rhos, 1738; R. Halkin, 1742.

<sup>6</sup> R. Knockin, 1761.

<sup>7</sup> Author of *Cambrian Popular Antiquities*, *History of Oswestry*, etc.; R. Halkin, 1818.

<sup>8</sup> R. Castle Caereinion, 1847.

## LLANDYSILIO.

THIS parish, transferred to this deanery from that of Mold by an Order in Council, July 30, 1849, contains the townships of Coedrwg, Maesyrcchain, Llandynan, Cymmo-Dupart, and Cymmo-Traian;<sup>1</sup> having a total area of 7,920 a. 2 r., rated at £3,899, and a population of 1,050. About one-fourth of this number is occupied in the slate quarries.

In the *Taxatio*, under "Decanatus de Yal," we have "Ecclesia de Landesiliau taxatur £6; dec., 12s."; but it had, no doubt, been appropriated before this to Valle Crucis Abbey; earlier, probably, than Llangollen and Wrexham had been; and in the *Valor* of 1535 we find it so returned, under the deanery of Bromfield and Yale, and taxed as "Capella de Llandisilio, £10 9s." On the dissolution of Valle Crucis these tithes were transferred to other hands,<sup>2</sup> from whom they had passed at the time of the commutation in 1841, as follows: Coedrwg, £110,—John Lloyd Salisbury, Elizabeth Owen, and Elizabeth Anne Jones. The other townships,<sup>3</sup> £279,—John Lloyd Salisbury and Elizabeth Anne Jones. The present holders are:

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Townshend Mainwaring . . .	210	0	0
Miss Jones, Bryneisteddfod . . .	102	10	0
Rev. J. Meredith, Abergele . . .	76	10	0
	£389	0	0

There is also a tithe rent-charge of £5, payable to the parish clerk in lieu of the bell-sheaf. The incumbent's stipend arises from—

	£	s.	d.
1. Rental of <i>Bryn Mawr</i> , <sup>4</sup> forty-six acres . . .	45	0	0
2. One-fourth of <i>Brithdir</i> in Glyn Traian <sup>4</sup> . . .	11	0	0
3. Queen Anne's Bounty + Parl. grant (£1,923 : 12 : 5) <sup>4</sup> . . .	57	14	2
4. Patron, Sir W. Williams Wynn, Bart., M.P . . .	12	10	0
	£126	4	2

A glebe house was erected in 1859, at a cost of £700, on a site given by Mr. Reid of Llandysilio Hall.

<sup>1</sup> In the *Laws of Hywel Dda*, "Traian gweini" represents the proportion of tithes (*i. e.*, a third) payable to the domestic chaplain,—"*Offeiriad teulu*"; Deupart two thirds those belonging to the local incumbent. Thus corresponding to the proportions of the rectorial and vicarial tithes.

<sup>2</sup> *Suprà*, p. 499.

<sup>3</sup> The Abbey lands in Maesyrcchain are tithe free, and there were also moduses on Blaen Yal and Llandysilio Hall.

<sup>4</sup> Grants of £200 were made by Queen Anne's Bounty, in 1730, to meet a similar sum by W. Williams Wynn, Esq.; and in 1753, 1788, and 1792, by lot. In 1814 a Parliamentary grant of £1,200 fell to it by lot; and in 1822 another, of £300, to meet a sum of £200 from Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart.

The church, dedicated in the name of Tysilio, son of Brochwel Ysgythrog, and probably the third Bishop of Llanelwy, consists of nave and chancel with a north chapel, which was first erected in 1748 for the accommodation of the township of Maesyrchain, which had no seats in the parish church, being doubtless provided for in the Abbey Chapel which lay within it. This chapel extended originally "for nine feet from the rood-screen"; but has lately been enlarged,<sup>1</sup> on the restoration of the church in 1869, so as to include the old Decorated window on the north of the sacarium. A low stone screen now divides the chancel from the nave; and on the exterior of the loop-window on the north side, which formerly lighted the space under the loft, are preserved some interesting fragments of early monumental crosses, and in it a couple of figures of ancient stained glass. The chancel window contains stained glass "in memory of Charlotte Andrew, by her intimate friend, Amelia Lolley,<sup>2</sup> 1864." Subject,—Lois, Eunice, and Timothy. The prayer-desk is of oak richly carved; whilst for the lectern, also of oak, the ancient eagle has been supplied with a new base. The font is Perpendicular, with foliated panels in good preservation. The roof also has foliated spaces, and the ceiling of the chancel retains some of its well wrought bands of foliated circles and the billet. The west end was partially rebuilt during the restoration, and a new Decorated window of three lights inserted. Above it stands the bell-gable. The porch is on the south side. The chandelier, given by Mr. Byers of the Hall, was brought from Gorton Church in Manchester, which he had rebuilt. A few armorial monuments have been transferred from the church into the north chapel, *e. g.*, one to Elizabeth Jones of Bwlch, 1721; "Henricus Roberts de Rydonnen, 1772"; one to Sarah Edwards de Groeslwyd.<sup>3</sup> The churchwardens' accounts contain some interesting details for the parochial history from 1609 to 1650; among which we find notice of an old cope,<sup>4</sup> and the price paid for a Prayer Book (4s. 6d.) in 1645. The first burial in flannel is entered under 1678.

The National School was built in 1858.

The charities consist of a rent-charge of £4 16s. on Tynewydd, now Coedyâl, by Jane ROBERTS of Rhydonnen in 1710, and one of twenty shillings, upon Penybryn, by Edward PARRY.

The following have been lost: two sums of 10s. each,<sup>5</sup> paid annually out of the Llandysilio Hall estate; but omitted from the condi-

<sup>1</sup> It now supplies an organ chamber and vestry.

<sup>2</sup> These two were the successors of the celebrated "Ladies of Llangollen."

<sup>3</sup> Other noticeable names in the parish are, *Eirenechtyd*, and near it *Ffynnon Benyw*, *Rhosynwst*, *Maen Gorran*, *Llandynan*, *Hafod yr Abbot*, *Llwynpalis*, *Plas Bilmon*, *Gaenen Hir*.

<sup>4</sup> *Darn o'r Hen Gôb*.

<sup>5</sup> £10 each were left by Lowry Davies, Thomas Jones of the Hall, John Lloyd of Rhydonen, and Edward Edwards of Groeslwyd. The £24 by the Rev. Vaughan Jones, rector of Cemmaes, 1733-47.



tions of sale, and rejected by the present purchaser : and two others of £10, and one of £24, applied to parochial purposes, and the interest lost with the church rate.

## PERPETUAL CURATES.

1718.—JONES, Simon <sup>1</sup>	1833.—HUGHES, Daniel, M.A. <sup>5</sup>
1737.—WYNNE, Edward	1838.—HUGHES, R. H. M., M.A. <sup>6</sup>
1756.—PRICE, Robert, B.A. <sup>2</sup>	1843.—KIRKHAM, J. W., M.A. <sup>7</sup>
1772.—JONES, Edward <sup>3</sup>	1851.—PARRY, George
1799.—ROBERTS, E.	1862.—JONES, David. <sup>8</sup>
1826.—HUGHES, R. R. <sup>4</sup>	

1871.—HUMPHREYS, Humphrey, M.A., Jesus College, Oxon.; Scholar; Deac., 1867; Pr., 1868; C. Rhuabon, 1867-71.

## LLANGOLLEN.

THIS extensive parish contains nineteen townships,<sup>9</sup> embracing a titheable area of 13,076 a. 3 r. 6 p., and a non-titheable area of probably equal extent, of the rateable value of £19,812; and is sub-divided into the two civil districts of Llangollen Traian and Trevor Traian, and Glyn Traian; corresponding with which are the ecclesiastical districts of the mother church and that of Pontfadog. The entire population amounts to 5,988, that remaining to the mother church about 5,130.

So early as the sixth century this place is mentioned by Llywarch Hên as the burial-place of two of his sons, Guell yn y Rhiwfelen, and Sawyl in Llangollen. The residence of the famous Tudor Trefor, Earl of Hereford, at Pengwern, in the early part of the tenth century, must have given it much importance, and brought it into prominence. Later still its nearness to the famous Abbey of Valle Crucis must have brought it into early connexion therewith, and paved the way for the grants we so frequently meet with in the thirteenth century. Thus in 1232 we find Bishop Abraham granting a "*porcio Ecclesie de Llangollen dicto Abb' et Convent'*;" in 1236 the same thing done by Bishop Hugh; and in 1237 the *other portion* added, but with a reservation of five merces. In 1238, again, the same Bishop made "*concessio totius Ecclesie domui de Valle Crucis,—reservata institucione vicarii,*"

<sup>1</sup> R. Llandegla, 1737.

<sup>2</sup> R. Llandegla, 1731; V. Llangollen, 1737.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llangollen, 1771.

<sup>4</sup> P. C. Trevor, 1826.

<sup>5</sup> All Souls', Oxon.; R. Manafon, 1838.

<sup>6</sup> R. Gwaunysgor, 1843; V. Llansantffraid yn Mechain, 1846.

<sup>7</sup> V. Llanbrynmair, 1851.

<sup>8</sup> *Hodiè* Dawes, resigned 1871.

<sup>9</sup> MS. Z. enumerates two more than are now reckoned, *e. g.*, Cilmediw and Pennant.



and the same was confirmed by Bishop Anian I in the years 1249 and 1261. In the year 1267 these grants, together with those relating to Wrexham, were again confirmed by Maurice, the custodian of the see during the vacancy occasioned by Anian's death.

During the next episcopate, that of the second Anian, a very important and interesting controversy arose between him and the Abbey concerning certain matters of patronage. The Bishop had appointed vicars to Llangollen and Wrexham, against which the Abbot appealed on the plea that Wrexham, Rhuabon, Chirk, Llansantffraid, and Llandegla, were *capellæ* to Llangollen, and that therefore one vicar was enough for the whole; and in 1274 sentence was passed by the Abbot of Tallyllechau, the Pope's delegate, condemning the Bishop to a fine of £5, and the said vicars to a penalty of £60 ("pro fructibus per eos receptis"), and to restore the said chapelries to the Abbey.<sup>1</sup> Against this sentence the Bishop appealed to the Archbishop of the province, whose official at once gave the Bishop letters of protection, and issued a mandate to the Archdeacon of Carmarthen to inhibit the Abbot of Tallyllechau from further proceedings, and to cite him to answer for his conduct. Little, however, cared the Abbot for the Archbishop or his official; for, backed by the papal power, he excommunicated the Bishop, and suspended the Archdeacon; and the result was (by way, I suppose, of compromise) that the sequestrated benefices were given up to the Abbey by the Bishop at his visitation in 1275.<sup>2</sup>

In the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas, A.D. 1291, we find, under the deanery of Nanthendwy, "Eccl'ia de Llangollen,—Rectoria, £30; dec., £3. Vicaria, £6 10s.; dec., 13s." In the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, A.D. 1535, it is given under the deanery of Marchia; and the rectorial tithes, appropriated to Valle Crucis, are returned at £32 : 6 : 8 gross; minus £2 : 17 : 10 for episcopal dues; and the vicarial at £9 : 11 : 6 net. When the Abbey was dissolved, its revenues were confiscated and granted by Edward VI to Sir William Pickering,<sup>3</sup> and the grant renewed by James I to Sir Edward Wootton,<sup>4</sup> from whom these tithes have passed, by inheritance or purchase, to many hands, as seen in the accompanying table:

<sup>1</sup> "Mandatum Abbatis de Talellechau, directum Officiali de Dyffryn Clwyd pro citando Ep'o Asaph' et Vicar' de Llangollen ad respondend' Abbati et Convent' de Valle Crucis asserenti quod Eccl'iam de Llangollen cum capellis suis, scil' Wrexham, Rywabon, Y Waun, Llansantffraid et Llandegla ab antiquo tempore canonice sunt adepti et quod cum unus Vicarius in matre ecclesia constitutus sufficiat, Ep'us Vicarios in Capellis contra jus ordinaverit.—Dat' 8 Idus Martii, 1274." (*Llyfr Cêch.*)

<sup>2</sup> "Concessio beneficiorum sequestratorum Abbati et Conv' de Valle Crucis per Ep'm Assav' in visitatione sua apud Album Monasterium."

<sup>3</sup> *Arch. Camb.*, 1849, p. 23.

<sup>4</sup> *Item*, 1846, p. 31.

Townships.	Area.		Total Tithes.			Vicar.			Present Impropriators.
<i>Trevor Traian.</i>	A.	R. P.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
1. Trevor Isa . .	1133	3 37	173	10	0	24	0	0	£140, W. Beamont, Esq.; £6,* ditto; £3 10s., Tre- vor Hall estate
2. Trevor Ucha . .	868	2 36	156	0	0	24	10	0	£8,* W. Beamont, Esq.; £3 10s., Trevor Hall; £45, W. Richards, Esq.; £45, Mr. E. Lloyd; £30, Mr. Kendrick [Esq.]
<i>Llangollen Traian.</i>									
3. Dinbran . .	503	3 34	72	0	0	12	8	0	£59 12s.,* W. Beamont,
4. Eglwysegle . .	1588	3 20	125	0	0	17	0	0	£12,* ditto; £96, rep. of Ed. Evans, Esq.
5. Cyssyllte . .	486	3 5	55	11	6	6	0	0	£5 : 11 : 6,* rect. Pontfa- dog; £44, J. Dickin, Esq.
6. Llangollen Fe- chan . .	528	1 18	100	15	0	11	15	0	£4,* W. Beamont, Esq.; £85, rep. of Rev. W. Lewis
7. „ Fawr . .	6	2 25	3	17	3	3	17	3	
8. „ Abbot . .	32	0 8	9	6	6	1	18	0	£7 : 8 : 6,* rect. Pontfadog
9. Pengwern . .	677	3 2	111	18	6	50	18	0	£9,* W. Beamont, Esq.; £52, J. Dickin, Esq.
10. Bache . . .	608	2 3	102	11	3	18	11	3	£82 16s., Mrs. S. Roberts; £1 4s., C. Richards, Esq.
11. Vivod . . .	493	1 10	62	0	0	56	17	6	£5 : 2 : 6, W. Beamont, Esq.
12. Rhisgog . .	304	2 3	81	3	6	11	3	6	£70, rep. Eben. Cooper
<i>Glyn Traian.</i>									
13. Crogen Iddon	2336	1 39	92	12	3	84	8	0	£8 : 4 : 3,* rect. Pontfadog
14. Crogen Wladys	649	0 30	73	7	0	67	12	0	£5 15s.,* ditto
15. Cilcychwyn . .	1243	0 12	76	15	0	12	15	0	£7,* ditto; £57, C. Rich- ards, Esq.
16. Erw allo . .	475	3 27	30	15	9	5	2	9	£23, ditto; £2 13s.,* rect. Pontfadog
17. Hafodgynfor } 18. Nantgwrhyd } 19. Talygarth }	1128	2 17	160	0	0	27	0	0	£104 : 17 : 6, W. Beamont, Esq.; £28 : 7 : 9, rect. of Pontfadog
	13076	3 6	1487	3 6		435	11	3	£1051 : 12 : 3 impropr.

The vicarage house, erected in 1816, together with about five acres of glebe land, were sold to the Railway Company in 18—, for £4,000, with which a new house was built in 1866 at a cost, inclusive of £500 for outbuildings etc., of £2,200, and nine acres of fresh glebe were purchased. Total, fifteen acres. Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The church takes its dedication from “Collen,” a saint of the earlier half of the seventh century, and a member of the celebrated family of “Coel Codebog,” other members of which had at different times founded churches at Llanfor, Llangwm, Llanrwst, Llanrhaiadr, Llangynhafal, etc. Portions of it date from a very early period, the walls being of Norman work with very rude masonry, the south door of

\* All purchased from Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., except £12 given to the rector of Pontfadog.

early Decorated, and the roof and traceried windows of the fifteenth century. The Rural Dean's Report of 1749 contains the further interesting note, that "there is a building adjoining the tower, westward, called 'the old Church,' in which the tutelar Saint Collen lies; which is likewise much decayed, and being of no use, is proposed to be taken down, and the materials to be used in building the tower, which is to be done with lime and stone, the expense being computed at £160. The old tower was a wooden one, and contained three tuneable bells and a clock." This purpose appears to have been carried out, and the ground-plan of the church, down to the time of its restoration and enlargement five years ago, was that of a simple parallelogram, divided internally by an arcade into nave, sacrarium, and north aisle, the eastern bay of both divisions having been anciently divided off by screens into chancel and chapel. A gallery occupied the west end, and the area was variously pewed throughout.

The enlargement consists of the addition of a south aisle, and the extension of the whole building eastward, by which means a spacious chancel, with aisles and vestry, has been formed; and the introduction of open and uniform seats throughout, whereby, notwithstanding the removal of the gallery, the accommodation has been doubled. The tower has also been opened, and a western door inserted.<sup>1</sup> The beautiful oak roof of the old chancel, with its rich and varied designs in traceried bands and foliations, attest the skilful and loving handiwork of the ancient rectors, the monks of Valle Crucis; as also do the elaborate corbels and wall pieces with their cornices of carved legends and running patterns of vine and corn, and grotesque animal forms. The chancel-window, a Perpendicular of five lights transomed, is filled with stained glass to the memory of Lady Alicia Tottenham, widow of the Bishop of Clogher, ob. 1866, and represents Our Lord and the four Evangelists in its upper compartments, with Moses and the Greater Prophets in the lower ones; the tracery being filled with the evangelistic emblems and the national saints, S. David and S. Patrick.<sup>2</sup> The east window of the north aisle has also memorial glass<sup>3</sup> to Margaret Jones-Parry, ob. 1837, and Richard Griffith Parry of Llangollen Fechan, 1848; with medallion subjects illustrative of events in the life of Our Lord. Another window, on the south side, representing Simeon taking the infant Saviour in his arms, was put up by the late ladies of Llangollen. The vestry is divided from the chancel by a blind arch, which also forms a credence, and the south window

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<sup>1</sup> Architect, Mr. Pountney Smith. Cost, £3,097. Principal contributors, John Dickin, Esq., Tyndwr, and Diocesan Church Building Society, each £300; Bishop Short, £150; H. Robertson, Esq., £100; Carey Fund, £90. This work owes much of its success to the then curate, Henry T. Edwards, now vicar of Carnarvon.

<sup>2</sup> The gift of Lieut.-Colonel Tottenham of Plas Berwyn. Glass by Done and Davies of Shrewsbury.

<sup>3</sup> By Rowland of Warwick.



of the chancel is deepened into a sedile. The rich altar-cloth was worked and presented by Miss Lynes of Bryn Tysilio; and an anonymous donor has given a handsome set of Communion-plate, of solid silver chased in bold relief, by Hardman, and inscribed "Rhôdd I, IL, at wasanaeth y Cymru yn Llangollen, 1871." The font, of Caen stone, carved with the heads of the four Evangelists, and supported on marble pillars, is "Dedicated to the service and glory of God by Sarah Dickin of Tyndwfr." The pulpit is of stone with open panels, and ornamented with the ball-flower. The old north door has been closed, and the porch converted to other uses; and the Decorated south door brought within the church, so as to form, with a screened-off portion of the south aisle, a small ante-chapel.

The Cemetery Chapel, St. John's, was erected in 1858 on a purchased allotment under the Chirk Land Enclosure Act. It consists of a simple nave with north porch and western bell-gable, and is in the Early English style. Cost about £700. The font, a small marble basin, from the mother church, was given by David Price, of Glyn, in 1796. Two diaper glass windows were given respectively, the one on the north side by W. Houghton, and the other, on the south, by Ch. Richards, in memory of S. J. Richards, 1857.

Two "School Chapels" have also been recently built,—St. Mary's, Eglwysegle, about three miles from the parish church, erected at a cost of about £600, and opened September, 1871; and St. David's, Fron Cyssyllte, at about the same distance on the way to Chirk, at a cost of about £800, and opened in the same week of the same year. Both are built on the same plan, and consist of schoolroom or nave with a small chancel attached.

On Wednesday in the same week in September, 1871, the dedicatory stone of handsome New National Schools<sup>1</sup> was laid by Capt. E. R. M. Tottenham, on a site repurchased from Mr. Dickin.<sup>2</sup> Estimated cost, £1,800.

The following list of charities is summarised from the official Report, 1837. For the school:

	£	s.	d.
1. Rent-charge on Y Rofft by John David in 1731 . . .	1	10	0
2. Part of £4 6s. rent-charge on Llandyn, being interest of £100, by Jane Owen of Wrexham, in 1732 . . .	1	16	0
	£3	6	0 <sup>3</sup>

For the poor:

1. Charge on a house in Llangollen Abbot by Ann Williams, 1697	0	10	0
2. Rent of Eirianallt, purchased in 1709 with £50 by Evan ap Edward, 1699, and £20 by Kenrick Wynne, 1708, both of Ffifod; and a further sum of £18 . . .	27	3	0

<sup>1</sup> The old National School was erected in 1840.

<sup>2</sup> Originally glebe land sold to Mr. Dickin.

<sup>3</sup> Lost, interest of £30 by John Pritchard, 1751, applied to parochial purposes.



3. Rent of Erw Maesmawr ucha, by John Thomas John Williams, 1706 . . . . .	£2 5 0
4. „ of house in Llangollen Abbot, by Sarah Lloyd, 1739 . . . . .	0 10 0
5. „ of Erw Llewelyn, by Henry Lloyd of Llangollen Abbot, 1726 . . . . .	2 0 0
6. Charge on Llandyn, by Jane Owen, 1732 ( <i>suprà</i> ) . . . . .	2 10 0
7. „ on Cae y Groes, by Mary Powell of Dolfawr, 1734 . . . . .	3 0 0
8. Part of interest of £20, by Sir W. Myddelton, 1718 . . . . .	0 11 8
9. By Mr. Evan Evans, in 1753 . . . . .	1 10 0
10. Charge on Tir Llanerch in Corwen, by William Powell and Edward Wynne of Dolfawr, 1738 . . . . .	3 16 8
	<hr/>
	£42 19 8

Total sum distributed among the poor of Llangollen and Trevor Traian.<sup>1</sup>

There is also the interest of £200, left by Elizabeth Jones in 1837, to be applied at the discretion of the vicar ; and a measure of wheat and a measure of barley, baked into bread, fifty weeks in the year, according to the will of Sir Thomas Myddelton : one moiety to Llangollen and Trevor Traian, the other to Glyn Traian. Equal in all to about £45 per ann.; the share of this portion being £22 10s. Managed by five trustees, including the vicars of Llangollen and Glyn Traian.<sup>2</sup>

#### VICARS.

1537.—GREGOR, John	1663.—HUGHES, William <sup>6</sup>
1540.—JOHN AP JENKIN	1702.—JONES, Richard, A.M. <sup>7</sup>
GRUFFYDD AP JOHN	1706.—CHARLES, Henry, A.M.
1552.—ROGER AP DAVID	1737.—PRICE, Robert, M.A. <sup>8</sup>
1582.—PRICE, John	1771.—JONES, Edward <sup>9</sup>
1587.—CHRISTIAN, J. <sup>3</sup>	1797.—WILLIAMS, Wm., M.A. <sup>10</sup>
1643.—JONES, Humphrey, M.A. <sup>4</sup>	1816.—WYNNE-EYTON, R., M.A. <sup>11</sup>
(1648.—ROBERTS, Edward <sup>5</sup> )	1849.—EDWARDS, William <sup>12</sup>

1868.—JAMES, Enoch Rhys, B.D., Lampeter ; Deac., 1856 ; Pr., 1857 ; C. Rhuddlan, 1856-57 ; Ysceifiog, 1857-61 ; P. C. Prestatyn, 1861-68.

<sup>1</sup> The charities of Glyn Traian are given below, under Pont Fadog.

<sup>2</sup> This was at one time withheld until the parishioners took proceedings against the late Hon. F. West, the costs of which were defrayed from the annual income of the charity. A new scheme was then prepared by the Attorney General.

<sup>3</sup> Vic. Chor., 1581.

<sup>4</sup> Deprived.

<sup>5</sup> Registers complete during the Commonwealth. V. Llansantffraid yn Mechain, 1660.

<sup>6</sup> V. Tremeirchion, 1660.

<sup>7</sup> V. Oswestry, 1680 ; S. R. Darowen, 1684.

<sup>8</sup> R. Llandegla, 1731.

<sup>9</sup> P. C. Llandysilio.

<sup>10</sup> V. Llangernyw, 1788 ; V. Chor., 1794 ; R. Caerwys, 1816 ; R. Ysgeifiog, 1826 ; Canon, 1827.

<sup>11</sup> V. Northop, 1849 ; Hon. Canon, 1855.

<sup>12</sup> R. Llanymawddwy, 1834-49.

## TREVOR.

THIS chapel was built about the year 1717 by Mrs. Elizabeth Lloyd of Trefor Hall, widow of Robert Lloyd of Llanhafon in the county of Montgomery, who also endowed it with £10 per ann., besides forty shillings for teaching poor children. At first it was only a private chapel to the Hall, though attended by many others from the neighbourhood, and was not consecrated till August 8, 1772, by Bishop Shipley.<sup>1</sup> In 1773 an allotment of £200 from Queen Anne's Bounty fell to its share; and another, of the same amount, was made to meet an equal benefaction by Lady Gower; and in 1779 a further grant, to meet another benefaction in lands, made in the name of the Rev. Richard Maurice. This last was probably the principal of Mrs. El. Lloyd's original endowment; and John Lloyd, Esq., added £5 per ann. more. The Queen Anne's Bounty grants were invested in lands, and the purchase-deeds were executed at Trevor Hall on the 26th of October, 1779. A parliamentary grant of £800, in 1815, was also made in augmentation of the above endowment; so that the income of the perpetual curate now consists of

£	s.	d.	
18	0	0	rent of Llwydcoed fach in Llangadfan, <sup>2</sup> 21 a.
16	0	0	„ Brynchwiled in Garthbeibio, <sup>2</sup> 32 a.
33	0	0	„ three-fourths of Brithdir in Glyn Traian, <sup>3</sup> 33 a.
27	3	0	int. of Parl. grant, now £905 : 4 : 8.
5	0	0	rent-charge on Trevor Hall Estate.
<hr/>			
£99	3	0	

There is neither house nor glebe. Patron, the Trefor Hall family.

No district has been legally assigned; but it serves as a chapel of ease for Trevor Traian, *i. e.*, the two townships of Trevor ucha and Trevor isa, which have a population of about 1,700.

The chapel is a small plain structure, in the form of a parallelogram, erected about the year 1717, and consecrated in 1772. Up to 1841 there were only three or four pews in it, for the Hall family and tenants, the rest being open benches. In that year pews were set up throughout it, and a gallery erected at the west end for the choir; and in 1869 a font was introduced. All the baptisms are registered at Llangollen. Some fragments of early stained glass, said to have been brought from Valle Crucis, are preserved in the east window; and there is a monumental tablet to Rice Thomas of Coed helen.

The National School was built in 1870, at a cost of £700.

This Traian shares in the charities of Llangollen Traian, and has

<sup>1</sup> For some time after 1731, possibly till 1772, no service appears to have been held here. (MS. G. 240, and Bp. Drummond's Book.)

<sup>2</sup> These two were bought for £400.

<sup>3</sup> The other fourth belongs to Llandysilie V. <sup>4</sup> This is now in dispute.

also two sums of 10s. 6d. each, for a Welsh sermon on Good Friday, and for the parish clerk, being the interest of a bequest of £21 secured on the Wrexham, Rhuabon, and Llangollen Turnpike Trust.

PERPETUAL CURATES.

17....—OWEN, ob. 1731                      1833.—OWEN, Hugh, B.A.<sup>3</sup>  
 1776.—MAURICE, Richard, A.M.<sup>1</sup>        1861.—DAVIES, John Evan, M.A.<sup>4</sup>  
 1825.—HUGHES, Rice, M.A.<sup>2</sup>

1865.—OWEN, Hugh Thomas, M.A., Jesus College, Oxon. ; Deac.,  
 1863 ; Pr., 1864 ; curate of Hirnant, 1863-65.

PONTFADOG, *alias* GLYN TRAIAN.

THIS ecclesiastical district is formed out of the parish of Llangollen, and consists of the six townships of Crogen Iddon, Crogen Wladys, Nantgwrhyd, Hafod gynfawr, Cilcychwyn, and Erw Wallo,<sup>5</sup> embracing an area of 6,675 a. 1 r. 36 p., of the rateable value of £4,940:17:6, with a population of 861.

It was gazetted as a perpetual curacy, April 15th, 1848, and constituted a rectory by an Order in Council in 1868.

The endowment arises from a benefaction of £1,000 by the Rev. Robert Wynne-Eyton, vicar of Llangollen, with which tithes to the amount of £53 per ann. were purchased from Sir W. Williams-Wynn, who further added £12 per ann., in small tithes, as a gift ; and a grant of £100 by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. To meet Mr. Wynne-Eyton's benefaction, Queen Anne's Bounty also gave £200, which were invested in the purchase of four acres and a half of land and a cottage, which has been converted into a parsonage house ; but there is a further sum of £380<sup>6</sup> in the hands of the Bounty Board towards building a new one. The patronage is vested in the vicar of Llangollen.

The church, St. John's, consecrated in October 1847, was built from the designs of Mr. Wegenhert, who prepared the actual plans and specifications,<sup>7</sup> but was completed under the care of Mr. R. Kyrke Penson. It consists of a chancel and a nave with a small square tower at the west end, surmounted by a tapering spire. It will accom-

<sup>1</sup> V. Llansilin, 1776 ; P. C. Llangedwin.

<sup>2</sup> P. C. Llandysilio, 1826 ; R. Newborough, 1833.

<sup>3</sup> St. John's College, Cambridge.

<sup>4</sup> Jesus College, Oxon. ; R. Llangelynin, Merioneth, 1865.

<sup>5</sup> At first the township of Cyssyllte was also attached to it ; but in 1869 it was re-annexed to the mother church.

<sup>6</sup> Of this sum, £100 was the donation of Bishop Short ; £100 benefaction of Queen Anne's Bounty ; and another £100 collected in the neighbourhood.

<sup>7</sup> He became bankrupt before it was finished.

modate three hundred and twenty-five. The seats free, and open. The cost about £870. There is also an organ, presented about the year 1860 by Mr. John Jones, 338, Strand, London.

The National School was erected in 1864, at a cost of about £200; and enlarged in 1871, at a further outlay of £210.

The charities consist of

1. Rent-charge by Jasper ap EVAN on Cae Jocyn, £1.
2.     "         by Thomas JOSEPH on Tynyraro, £1.
3.     "         by "Anon." on lands in Weston Rhyn, 4s.
4.     "         by Hugh ap JOHN and Owen PUGH on Penystreet,  
£1 : 12 : 4.
5.     "         by John HUGHES on lands in Weston Rhyn, £1.
6.     "         portion of, by Sir Thomas MYDDELTON, on lands  
now in the possession of W. C. West, Esq., £22 10s.<sup>1</sup>

Of these, the first five are distributed in money on St. Thomas' Day; the last in shilling loaves, fortnightly.<sup>2</sup>

*Rector.*—1848. REES, Wm. Davies, St. David's, Lampeter; Deac., 1841; Pr., 1842; curate successively of Aberpergwm, Whittington, and Tibberton, Salop.

### LLANSANTFFRAID GLYN CEIRIOG.<sup>3</sup>

THIS parish contains the townships of Lafar ucha, Lafar isa, Nantir ucha, and Nantir isa, having an area of 5,125 acres, and a population of 646, the rateable value being £2,265.

Originally a *capella* to Llangollen, it was appropriated, with the mother church, about the middle of the thirteenth century, to the Abbey of Valle Crucis, and shared its fortunes till the Dissolution. Thus the *Taxatio* of 1291 returns the "Rectoria" as worth £2; "dec., 4s., quod rector alibi est beneficiatus. Vicaria, £1 : 6 : 8; non dec." And the *Valor* of 1535, "Rectoria appropriatur Monasterio de Valle Crucis"; under which, "Capella de Llansantffraid valet £6 10s.," the vicarage, apparently, being absorbed. After the Dissolution the impropriation, or rather the advowson, came into the possession of the Wynnstay family, by whom, in the beginning of the last century, it was sold (exempt from a charge of £6 per ann. still paid from Wynn-

<sup>1</sup> This is a commutation, by mutual agreement, for the original bequest of a measure of wheat and a measure of barley for each of fifty weeks in the year. The other half goes to Llangollen and Trevor Traian.

<sup>2</sup> Lost: John Thomas Morris of Crogen Iddon, £24; Anonymous, £10, in 1707; Thomas Hughes, £1 per ann. to 1786; John Edwards of Bache, £15 in 1700; also 8s. 4d. bequest of Sir W. Myddelton, Bart.

<sup>3</sup> "St. Bride's in the valley of the Ceiriog."

<sup>4</sup> This seems to represent the sum given above in the *Valor* as the value of the *capella* to the Abbey, *minus* the deductions for annuals, triennials, etc.



stay to the vicar<sup>4</sup>) to Sir John Trevor of Brynkinallt, who also purchased from Mr. Myddelton of Chirk Castle the tithes which had previously been held by that family; since which time the custom has been (whether a condition of the sale or not is uncertain) for the vicar to receive the tithes, and to pay thereout to the impropiator £32 per ann. as fee-farm rent. The commuted value of the tithes is £150; and in 1839 Viscount Dungannon, the impropiator and patron, in order to obtain two benefactions of £200 each from Queen Anne's Bounty, assigned to the vicar a charge of £32 per ann. on Gledrid Farm, thereby remitting the aforesaid fee-farm rent. In 1841 also, to secure another benefaction of £200 from the same source, he transferred to the vicar lands worth £316. A previous augmentation of £200, by lot in 1723, was invested in 1751 in the purchase of Tynypwll Farm, in Llangynyw, containing seventeen acres of land, and now rented at £26 per ann. So that the vicar's income consists of: 1, tithe, £150; 2, rent of Tynypwll, £26; 3, Wynnstay charge, £6; 4, Queen Anne's Bounty, £13;<sup>1</sup> 5, interest of £50 invested, £1:11:8;<sup>2</sup> 6, Gledrid paid and returned. The house was rebuilt in 1842<sup>3</sup> at a cost of £535, and attached to it are seven acres of glebe.<sup>4</sup> Patron, Lord Arthur Edwin Hill-Trevor, M.P., Brynkinallt.

The church, St. Ffrïad, Bridget or Bride, consists of a single body with a western tower. It was rebuilt about the year 1790, and again "restored, in 1839, at the sole expense of Arthur Viscount Dungannon, the patron, who earnestly recommends its preservation to the future possessors of Brynkinallt."<sup>5</sup> Three of the windows contain stained glass. The east window has the royal arms and those of the Primate, the Bishop of the diocese, and the Prince of Wales. One on the south, SS. Peter and Paul; and one on the north, the arms of Brynkinallt and Chirk Castle. There is a small brass to John Maurice, gent., 1746; and mural tablets to Arthur Viscount Dungannon, 1837; Charlotte Viscountess Dungannon, 1828; and the Hon. Ch. H. Hill-Trevor, 1823.

The National School was built in 1838, on a site presented by

<sup>1</sup> Interest of grants in augmentation.

<sup>2</sup> Arising from dilapidations on Tynypwll, paid by vicar Steele, and invested in the Funds.

<sup>3</sup> Inscription over the front door. ... "Ædificii hujus lapidem fundaminis primum locavit Arturus Vice-Comes Dungannon, beneficii patronus. Die Maii xi'o A.D. MDCCCXLII."

<sup>4</sup> In 1749 the glebe consisted of "a house and about four acres of land with two cottages upon it, given by Sir W. Myddelton of Chirk Castle, subject to a quit-rent of 2s. 6d. per ann." This, however, was recently sold by Mr. West to Mr. Webster. In 1535 there must have been much more glebe, as it was returned as worth 20s. per ann; but there are lands in the parish still called "Tir yr Abbey."

<sup>5</sup> Inscription on a marble tablet in the church.

Mr. T. Jones of Oswestry ; much improved in 1859 ; and a class-room added in 1872.

The charities consist of a charge of 4s. per ann., paid by Mrs. POWELL of Preesgwyn ; and the sum of £6 : 6 : 8 per ann., being the interest of £257 in the public funds, arising from the sale of Tir y Tlodion, sold in 1859.

## VICARS.

1735.—EVANS, Griffith, A.B.<sup>1</sup>      1777.—PRICE, David, LL.B.<sup>2</sup>

1758.—LLOYD, Henry, A.B.      1807.—STEELE, Samuel<sup>3</sup>

1837.—DONNE, Stephen, M.A.<sup>4</sup>

1860.—HUGHES, Reginald, A.M., Jesus College, Oxon. ; Hon. 4th Cl. Math., 1851 ; Deac., 1852 ; Pr., 1853 ; Assistant Master in Cowbridge School, 1851-52 ; Second Master of Ruthin School, 1852-60 ; C. Llanbadr, D. C., 1854-60.

## LLANSILIN.

THIS parish, which in 1291 formed a chief portion of the deanery of Cynllaeth, and in 1534 was reckoned under that of Marchia, contains the ten townships of Bodlith, Llan, Lledrod,<sup>5</sup> Lloran,<sup>6</sup> Llys Dynwallawn,<sup>7</sup> Moelvre, Priddbwl, Rhiwlas,<sup>8</sup> Sycharth, and Sychdin ; the last of which<sup>9</sup> is in Shropshire, the rest in the county of Denbigh ; embracing an area of 12,735 acres, of the rateable value of £11,448, and having a population of 2,000.

Among the early notices some are peculiarly interesting as illustrations of the ecclesiastical customs of the age. First, we have in the foundation charter of St. John's Hospital in Oswestry, a grant by Bishop Reyner, A.D. 1210-1215, of an "annual charge of thirty shillings upon the clergy of Llansilin ;"<sup>10</sup> from which we may infer that the church was still collegiate, as was the case with all the earlier British churches, and that the portions had not yet been united. Next, the appropriation by Bishop Anian of this church to the Cathedral Chapter, which was confirmed by Bishop Llewelyn ap Ynyr (de Bromfield), 13 April, 1296. On this occasion it was stated that the deed of appropriation by Anian had been destroyed in the wars,<sup>11</sup> and the Bishop

<sup>1</sup> V. Llansantffraid yn Mechain, 1754.

<sup>2</sup> V. Chirk, 1754.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llanrhaiadr yn Mochnant, 1826.

<sup>4</sup> Head Master of Oswestry School, 1833-60 ; R. Marchwial, 1860.

<sup>5</sup> A portion of this has been assigned to Rhydycroesau.

<sup>6</sup> Subdivided into Lloran ucha and isa.    <sup>7</sup> Commonly called "Estyn allan."

<sup>8</sup> Divided into Isvoel and Uwchvoel.

<sup>9</sup> Area, 1,446 acres ; rateable value, £1,442.

<sup>10</sup> "xxx sol. de clericis de Llansilin annuatim." (Eyton's *Shropshire*.)

<sup>11</sup> "Confirmacio donacionis Aniani de Ecclesia S'i Egidii de Kynlleith et

ratified the arrangement which was usually adopted in the case of *capellæ*, viz., he gave up his claim to annuals and lactuals in exchange for a sext of the tithes of corn and hay and of the offerings.<sup>1</sup> The value of the whole at this time, as appears from the *Taxatio* of 1291, was, "Rectoria, £15; dec., £1 10s. Porcio Llewelyn, £1:6:8; non dec. Vicaria, £4; non dec." In 1301 the rectorial tithes, appropriated to the Bishop, Dean, and Chapter, were let by them for a period of twelve years, but the rental is not stated. About the same time two grants were made to the same Bishop of lands in Sycharth.<sup>2</sup> The latter of these grants is doubly interesting, both for its local references and as a specimen of the origin of the *moduses* with which we meet so frequently. Another historical note mentions that the township or vill of Llysdunwallawn was held about this time by the friars of Havering in Essex;<sup>3</sup> and a member of that house, "Dominus Johannes de Havering," occurs as one of the signatories of Richard Fitz Alan's grant of lands in St. Martin's to the Bishop of St. Asaph in 1278.

In the *Valor*, 1535, the rectorial tithes are returned as appropriate to the Bishop and Canons of St. Asaph, and amounting in all to £19 10s.; those of the vicar at £8, dec. 16s. The Commutation

medietatis ecclesie de Rudlan, pro eo quod ipsum donacionis scriptum ratione guerre amissum sit ..... per L. Ep'um dat' 2 Id. Apr. 1296. Cons. 3'o." (*Llyfr Côch*, 138A.)

<sup>1</sup> "Leolinus Ep'us Ecclesiam S'i Egidii de Kynlleith et beate Marie de Rothelan capellas fecit ecclesie sue Assav. proinde annuales et lactuales Ep'o de iisdem ecclesiis debitas remittens, acceptaque pro eis sibi et successoribus suis earundem sexta parte garbarum feni et oblacionum prout habet ex ceteris capellis Eccl. Cathdr. Dat' 2 Id. Apr., 1296." (*Llyfr Côch*, 137b.) Item, "*Permutatione* lactualium et annualium pro sexta parte garbarum feni et oblacionum." (138a.)

<sup>2</sup> *Llyfr Côch*, 42a. "Due concessiones Sychart huclan in Kynllaith L. Ep'o Asaph' et heredibus suis et terrarum ibidem per Meurig, Madog Goch, Howell et Iorwerth filios Kenwric ap Madoc de Sychart, &c., et ad majorem securitatem sigillum nobilis viri Madog p'ni presenti apponi per curiam hiis testibus Mag'ro Aniano, decano Asaph, Ric'o ap J." Item, 43a: "Jokyn Ddu de Sychart concedit L. Ep'o Assaph heredibus et assignis suis 5 acras terre jacentes in *Maes Crofford*, unum pratum vocatum *Gwerglodd Kenwric* cum omni jure suo in *Maestanglwy'dd*, pro qua donacione dictus Ep'us heredibus suis concessit dicto Yockin, quod nec ipse nec heredes sui non solvant pro aliquo gavel nisi 3 sol' et 2 den' et quod sint liberi in *molendino* solventes tantum solvetur et quod sint liberi a procuracione equorum duorum et balliorum canum avium et garcionum et ab averagio et *decim' coatgula comm' in perpetuum*. Sigillum meum apposui et ad majorem securitatem sigillum nobilis viri Madoci Weychan."

<sup>3</sup> "Villa de Llys Dynwallawn. Domini Fratres de Havering locum D'ni Regis Edwardi in North Wall' tenuerunt tempore Aniani Ep' Bangor," i. e. 1278.



Returns assign £107:2:3½ to the Bishop, £922:12:6½ to the Dean and Chapter, £244:15:6 to the vicar,<sup>1</sup> and £10 to the parish clerk. The rectorial tithes are held on a lease, which expires Sept. 3rd, 1874; and there is an augmentation of £20 paid by the Dean and Chapter to the vicar, who has also a house and three acres of glebe. Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The church, named after Silin, the founder,<sup>2</sup> whose vigil fell on the 1st of October (as also did that of Garmon, after whom two of the neighbouring churches are named), consists of two equal bodies of four bays divided by an arcade of octagonal pillars which have their capitals carved in much variety of design. The chancel is in the south aisle; and at the west end stands the tower, erected about the year 1832 to replace the wooden steeple which previously stood there, similar to the one at Llansantffraid.

When Llewelyn ap Ieuan Vychan of Moeliwrch died, about 1534, a dispute arose between his sons as to the succession, the one claiming by the new law of primogeniture, which had just come into force through the union of England and Wales, 26 Henry VIII; the other by the immemorial custom of the Principality, *i. e.*, by gavel-kind. The award thereupon orders "Morus, the elder, to have a seat in 'Our Lady's Chancel' within the church of Llansilin; and Thomas to have a seat in the same church, anynce St. Silin.'" The above is probably the seat referred to in a "suit in the High Commission Court between Mr. Edward Morus and the wardens concerning the removal of his seat in the chancel," which was referred by the Archbishop to Dr. Owen, the Bishop of St. Asaph, and by him to Dr. Griffith, rector of Llanymyneich (and his successor in the see), by whom the seat was allowed to remain. Ieuan Vychan, the father of the above Llewelyn, "began the great window in the chancel, which was finished by his widow, Gwenhwyfar," and destroyed (as, doubtless, at the same time the image of St. Silin) during the civil wars of the Commonwealth,<sup>3</sup> for in "1646, Feb. 23, the Montgomeryshire forces began to *fortifie Llan Silin Church* for the straightninge and keepinge in of Chirk Castle men, where Sir John Watts was governoure; who shortly after deserting the Castle, and marchinge towards the King's army, with all his garrison were taken by the men of Montgomery Castle, after a hotte bickeringe, in Church Stoke Church, the first day of Marche, 1646."<sup>4</sup> It has, however, again been filled with stained glass representing the four Evangelists, by a descendant<sup>5</sup> of the original

<sup>1</sup> Chiefly from the townships of Lledrod and Llysdynwallawn.

<sup>2</sup> From the mention of "Our Lady's Chancel" below, it would seem that there was a subsequent dedication; or else, perhaps, one was assigned to each of the aisles, as at St. Asaph.

<sup>3</sup> Manuscript memorandum by John Davies of Rhiwlas, author of *Heraldry Displayed*, 1716.

<sup>4</sup> MS. mem. by William Maurice, in the Wynnstay MSS.

<sup>5</sup> Mr. Price Morris of South Australia.



donor, who, with his brother,<sup>1</sup> restored in 1864 the massive south door with its square-headed, Decorated window, and were also the donors of the Dean's stall in the restored Cathedral. The porch, which had previously stood on the south side, was removed on the building of the tower, the basement of which now forms the principal entrance. In the north aisle a door has been closed at the west end, and the carved work of the eastern portion of the roof may imply that this was once "St. Silin's Chancel," before it was superseded by that of "Our Lady" in the south. In the south aisle the roof is held together by transverse beams, and there are indications of a carved wall-plate on the north side. A gallery at the west end contains an organ by Nicholson, put up in 1859. The brass chandelier with its fine chain-work was made and presented in 1824 by a native of this parish, Mr. Richard Roberts of Birmingham. There are but two monuments of any note. One, with Latin inscription, to Sir William Williams, Speaker of the House of Commons, who married the heiress of Glasgoed, and founded the families of Wynnstay and Bodelwyddan. Ob. 1700. The other to David Maurice of Penybont, *alias* Glancynllaith, 1719.

In the churchyard, against the south wall, lies the grave of "Huw Morus" of Pontymeibion, an eminent lyric poet, otherwise known as "Eos Ceiriog." Ob. 1709. It is also remarkable for some very fine yew trees.

The National School was erected in 1823, in a portion of the churchyard, which is very extensive, measuring about two acres.

The charities embrace :

£10, interest of £200, by Sir Wm. WILLIAMS of Llanforda, 1700.

£7, ditto of £140, Consol. Char.,<sup>2</sup> invested in Llansilin Turnpike Trust.

£1, ditto of £20, by Sir W. MYDDELTON, 1717.

£1 6s., rent-charge on Tyncoed, by Edward ap THOMAS.

£2 12s., ditto, Glasgoed, by Walter KYFFIN.

£1 6s., ditto on Llain Wen, by Edward MAURICE of Penybont in 1732.

6s. 8d., ditto on Pentre Cefn in Sychdin, by Mrs. ROGERS.<sup>3</sup>

6s. 8d., ditto on Llangedwyn estate. Anonymous.<sup>3</sup>

An unusual number of eminent men belong to this parish, *e. g.*, MAURICE, William, of Cefn y Braich, a learned antiquary and collector of MSS., which are now preserved in the Wynnstay collection.

KYFFIN, Morus, of Glasgoed, translator of *Jewell's Apology* into Welsh. Accounted by Iolo Morganwg as the standard work of the language.

EDWARDS, Charles, of Rhydygroesau, author of *Hanes y Ffyddl*.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. James Maurice of Ruthin.

<sup>2</sup> Of this sum, Ann Myddelton of Plas Newydd left £42 (with interest, £63), and Richard Williams and John Ffoulkes, each £20.

<sup>3</sup> One of these bequests was for the vicar.

MORUS, Hugh ("Eos Ceiriog"), whose works, in two volumes, have been edited by the Rev. Walter Davies, M.A. ("Gwallter Mech-ain").<sup>1</sup>

DAVIES, John, of Rhiwlas, author of *Heraldry Displayed*.

MAURICE, Thomas, of Lloran Ucha and University College, Oxford, author of *Indian Antiquities*, 7 vols.; *The Ancient and Modern History of India*, etc.

MAURICE, Andrew, A.M., of Lloran Ucha, Dean of St. Asaph, 1634.

## VICARS.

— Maurice ap Howel ap Mer-edyth	1667.—JONES, John, B.D. <sup>8</sup>
1537.—Thomas Kyffin ap Meredyth	1706.—WYNN, J.
1561.—Davydd MORUS <sup>2</sup>	1706.—BRAY, John
1562.—Richard ap Ienn <sup>3</sup>	1745.—SKYE, John <sup>9</sup>
1592.—LLOYD, Thomas	1763.—HUGHES, Thomas, LL.B. <sup>10</sup>
1615.—LLOYD, Simon <sup>4</sup>	1776.—MAURICE, Richard, A.M. <sup>11</sup>
1617.—MUCKLESTON, Richard	1802.—EDWARDS, Turner, M.A. <sup>12</sup>
1625.—KYFFIN, John <sup>5</sup>	1803.—JONES, David
1627.—JARVIS, Richard <sup>6</sup>	1809.—MASON, John, M.A. <sup>13</sup>
1661.—TANAT, Edward <sup>7</sup>	1811.—JONES, John, M.A. <sup>14</sup>
	1819.—RICHARDS, David

1827.—JONES, Walter, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; second class, Litt. Hum. and B.A., 1819; Deac., 1820; Pr., 1821; Second Master of Oswestry School, and C. Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog, 1820.

<sup>1</sup> A very interesting general account of this parish appeared from Mr. Davies' pen, in the *Cambro-Briton*, vol. i, p. 300, and has been reprinted in his works, *Gwaith Gwallter Mechain*, Carmarthen, 1868, iii, pp. 26-73. To it I am indebted for much of the materials of this notice.

<sup>2</sup> Master of Oswestry School.

<sup>3</sup> V. Tremeirchion, 1562.

<sup>4</sup> R. Newtown, 1617.

<sup>5</sup> Vic. Chor., 1620; V. Oswestry, 1625; Preb. Meliden, 1628; R. Manafon, 1635.

<sup>6</sup> Deprived of this by the Parliamentary sequestrators. V. Llanrhaiadr, 1661.

<sup>7</sup> V. Llanyblodwel, 1629.

<sup>8</sup> V. St. Martin's, 1665; Canon, 1681; R. Selattyn, 1682.

<sup>9</sup> Head Master of Oswestry School, 1733.

<sup>10</sup> Head Master of Ruthin School, 1739-68; R. Llanfwrog, 1755.

<sup>11</sup> P. C. Trefor, 1770; P. C. Llangedwin, 1755. <sup>12</sup> V. Oswestry, 1802.

<sup>13</sup> R. Bodfari, 1812-18; V. Bettws yn Rhos, 1818. Author of *Welsh Sermons*, 2 vols., 1830.

<sup>14</sup> Vic. Chor., 1816; V. Rhuddlan, 1819; R. Llandderfel, 1828.

LLANRHAIADR YN MOCHNANT.<sup>1</sup>

THIS parish, which originally embraced the daughter parishes of Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr, Llangadwaladr, Llangedwyn, and part of Llanwddyn, being the greater portion of the ancient manor of Mochnant, is still very extensive, being subdivided into sixteen townships, viz., Tre'r-Llan, Trewern, Bandhadla Hamlet, Bandhadla Ucha, Bandhadla Isa, Trebrys fawr, Trebrys fach, Trefeiliw, Gartheryr, Henfache, Cefn Coch, Castellmoch, Brithdir, Glanhafon, Nantfyllon, and Abermarchnant; having an area of 21,442 a. 9 p.,<sup>2</sup> of the rateable value of £17,116:3:8, and a population of 2,590.

The *Taxatio* of 1291 returns this church as still a collegiate foundation with its *capellæ* and *portiones*; e.g., under "Decanatus de Mochnant, Ecclesia de *Rauraeader* cu' capell' suis scil't Wangedwyn Lanar-māun Bettws Kadwalardyr. Porcio Gruffud Voel, £5;<sup>3</sup> Porcio Gwrgeneu, £5; Porcio Tudur ap Gwrgeneu, £3; Porcio Llewelyn, 6s. 8d.; Porcio Eynion Preb'tri, 6s. 8d.; Porcio Gwyn, presb'ri, 10s.; Porcio Johannis presb'ri, £1; Porcio Emeystr', 13s. 4d." Some, at least, of these *portiones* must have been united soon after this, for in 1304 we find a portion set to the Bishop for £8,<sup>4</sup> in order to enable him therewith to discharge some arrears of imposts laid by the King upon the clergy who held lay feoffs, and by them refused as unconstitutional until enforced under pain of sequestration.<sup>5</sup> In 1307 it was again set to the Bishop for £10. Bishop Spridlington in 1380 obtained a licence from Richard II to appropriate the rectory, with its chapelries and portions, to the augmentation of the stipends of the vicars choral and singing men, and to the sustentation of the other expenses of the cathedral church.<sup>6</sup> The burning of the cathedral by Glyndwr twenty years after this, and its ruined and desolate condition for another eighty years, must soon have nullified this appropriation; if, indeed, it ever came into operation, for no later mention of it occurs. In the *Valor* of 1535 we have simply "Rectoria de Llanrhadre, £18 12s.; inde dec., £1:17:2½. Vicaria, £9 3s.; dec., 18s. 4d." In 1678, however, Bishop Barrow procured an Act of Parliament for the union of certain sinecure rectories to their vicarages, and mindful, doubtless, of the precedent of his predecessor, Spridlington, for the appropriation of the "rectory of Llanrhaidr and all the glebe, tythes, issues, and profits thereof, to the Dean and Chapter, to the only

<sup>1</sup> "The church near the waterfall" in the commote of Mochnant, i. e., the rapid stream.

<sup>2</sup> Tithed, 11,267 a. 29 p.; commons and sheepwalk, 9,864 a. 1 r. 34 p.

<sup>3</sup> "Decima, 10s. each," the rest "non decim'."

<sup>4</sup> "Vendicio porcionis Llanrhaidr pro anno 1304 pro summa 8 lib. D'no Ep'o per porcionarium ibidem." (*Llyfr Côch*, 10a.)

<sup>5</sup> *Suprà*, p. 57.

<sup>6</sup> B. Willis, Append. xxxvi, and *suprà*, p. 196.



intent that the same shall be for ever employed for "defraying the charge of the repairs of the said Cathedral in the first place, and the residue of the said profits for the augmentation of the revenue of the choir thereof."<sup>1</sup>

The tithes from this parish were commuted at £982:16:8 to the Dean and Chapter, £402 to the vicar,<sup>2</sup> and £12 to the parish clerk in lieu of the bell-sheaf.

The vicarage house, which was enlarged by Dr. Worthington, and again in 1852 by the present vicar, is otherwise the same in which Dr. Morgan lived and worked at his translation of the Bible.<sup>3</sup> Belonging to the vicarage there are also a mill and a cottage and seven acres of glebe.

Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The church, St. Dogfan (July 13),<sup>4</sup> consists of one long nave with gallery, tower, and principal entrance at west end, and two chancel-aisles of three bays; that on the south nearly coeval with the nave, but that on the north perhaps earlier. The roof of the chancel is panelled in oak, with bosses at the intersections, and the wall-plate ornamented with the billet and quatrefoils; the rest of the roof ceiled in plaster. Remains of the old rood-screen form the ends of two benches in the chancel, the Rural Dean having in 1791 "ordered y<sup>e</sup> old cancelli to be removed." The font bears the date "1663. R. I. V." The bells, dated 1741, bear respectively the inscriptions, "Peace and good neighbourhood," "Prosperity to this parish," and "Prosperity to all our benefactors."<sup>5</sup> The altar-table bears the date 1749; the chalice, 1693; flagon and paten, 1761: besides other vessels undated.

<sup>1</sup> B. Willis, Append. LXII.

<sup>2</sup> Derived mainly from Cefn Côch, Trefeiliw, Castellmoch, and Llan..... The following summary will be interesting as illustrating the ancient portions, and showing the appropriation of the several tithes:—*Trerllan*, all tithes, great and small, to vicar; *Trefeiliw*, corn and small to vicar, hay to rector; *Cefn Côch*, corn to vicar, small to rector; *Brithdir* and *Henfache*, hay and small to vicar, corn to rector; *Banhadla* and *Cwmblowty* (in Denb.), corn, hay, and small to rector; *Glanhafon* and *Nantfyllon*, corn and hay to rector; *Trewern*, hay to vicar, corn and small to rector. (MS. Z., 1735.)

<sup>3</sup> In the last alteration a door-frame and two window-frames on each side of it were brought to light in the north wall of the dining-room, which was built of wicker-work and clay; so that in his time this must have been the front entrance.

<sup>4</sup> "St. Dogfan, like Cynog, was a member of the holy family of Brychan Brycheiniog, and there are berries on the Berwyn still called after him,—'Mwyar Doewan,' 'Rubus Chamæmorus,'—about which there is a tradition that whoever brought a quart of them ripe to the parson on the morning of the day of the saint's festival, had his ecclesiastical payments remitted for the year." (*Montgom. Collect.*, 1872, p. 304.)

<sup>5</sup> The parochial accounts for 1735 state that £36 of John Powell's legacy were to be applied to the purchase of new bells, and those for 1741 mention a balance due to the bell-founders of £60.



There are in the church several monuments with armorial bearings, *e. g.*, to Archdeacon Langford, 1732, his three wives, and his father, John Langford, rector of Derwen and Llanelidan, 1718; Rev. William Roberts, M.A., rector of Whittington and Selattyn, 1734; Lady Palmer; and a simple mural tablet to Dr. Worthington, 1778. Three of the vicars, Edward Williams (1799), S. Steele, and Walter Davies, lie in the churchyard, the last shaded by a yew tree of his own planting. The monuments to the Bibby family and to Griffith Howell, and a chaste cross to a member of the Tynymaes family, are deserving of note.

Some of the entries in the parochial accounts of the last century are curious and amusing.<sup>1</sup> Thus in 1730 we find the following tariff: for killing a polecat, 6*d.*; an old raven, 2*d.*; a young one, 1*d.*; an old fox, 2*s.* 6*d.*; a young one, 1*s.* 3*d.* In 1741, "for stopping the pigeons from coming to church, 1*s.*" In 1772, for killing an urchin, 2*d.*; for "mossing the church, 8*s.* 5½*d.*;" and, as a natural corollary, "for carrying rubbish out of it, 9*d.*"

The School was founded in 1730 by Mr. John Powell of Ysgeifiog, who left £120 for its endowment; to which Dr. Worthington, the vicar, added a rent-charge of £3 on Cae isa. It was held at first in the vestry of the parish church, and afterwards in the Town Hall, until the National School was erected in 1858. The present endowment is £20, arising from Cae isa and part of Henryd Fach.

The other charities embrace:

1. Henryd Fach, purchased for £460, <sup>2</sup> in 1765; balance of rent, £17, for school	-	-	-	-	£23	0	0
2. Erw Fawr yn Ial, by Mr. John Powell	-	-	-	-	33	0	0
3. Cefn Llyfnog in Meifod, by ditto	-	-	-	-	25	0	0
4. Brynglas, rent-charge by Mrs. Eliz. Lloyd	-	-	-	-	3	0	0
5. Cae Thomas Ddu, by Morris Jones	-	-	-	-	0	10	6
6. Mortgage of £110 <sup>3</sup> on Montgom. Turnpike Trust	-	-	-	-	5	10	0
					<hr/>		
					£90 0 6		

These sums are appropriated, pursuant to an Order of the Court of Chancery, issued in 1833,<sup>4</sup> as follows:

In apprenticing poor children	-	-	-	-	£74	0	0
In distribution on St. Thomas' Day	-	-	-	-	12	10	6
„ „ Easter Eve	-	-	-	-	3	10	6
					<hr/>		
					£90 0 6		

<sup>1</sup> Many of these items being for the benefit of the whole ratepayers, were collected, for convenience, along *with* the church-rate; and from being looked upon as *part* of the rate, were treated as abuses, and turned into argument for their abolition.

<sup>2</sup> Sources: £210, balance of John Powell's legacy; £120 by Mr. Charles Edwards of Llansantffraid, £100 by Rev. Dr. South, £20 by Samuel Hordley, and £10 by Mr. Morris Thomas.

<sup>3</sup> *I. e.*, £90 (*i. e.*, £100 minus legacy duty) by Mr. Daniel Powell, and £20 by Mrs. Catherine Morris of Pennant.

<sup>4</sup> Tablet in the church.

Two places are pointed out,<sup>1</sup> by tradition and nomenclature respectively, as ancient ecclesiastical sites, "Lle yr Hen Eglwys" in Glanhafon township, and "Buarth yr Hendre" in Henfache. Local tradition states the latter to have been also the site of an old church, the site and graveyard of which are said to be still visible. From the fact of its being in Cwm Doefon, and Ffynnon Doefon being in the same dell, it has been very reasonably conjectured to have been the site of the original oratory founded by Dogfan; and both these places may have long continued oratories or *capelle* under the collegiate church of later foundation.

## SINECURE RECTORS.

— STANNEY, John	1590.—LLOYD, William, A.M. <sup>5</sup>
1533.—PYDDLESTON, Hugh, LL.B. <sup>2</sup>	1601.—PRICE, Theodore, D.D. <sup>6</sup>
1566.—POWELL, John <sup>3</sup>	(1650.—HILL, William) <sup>7</sup>
1574.—VAUGHAN, William, D.D. <sup>4</sup>	1660.—GRIFFITH, Bp. <i>in com.</i>
1667.—SOUTH, Robert, D.D. <sup>8</sup>	

## VICARS.

1294.—Llewelyn ap Iorwerth Moel <sup>9</sup>	1560.—Peter ap David ap Rhys
1537.—Oliver ap Griffith	1578.—MORGAN, William, D.D. <sup>10</sup>
1556.—Oliver ap Morus	1588.—MORGAN, Evan, B.D. <sup>11</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Montgomeryshire Collections*, 1871, p. 243, by Mr. T. W. Hancock, whose account of the parish is very full and valuable.

<sup>2</sup> Prebendary of Llanfair, 1517; V. Wrexham, 1520; S. R. Cwm, 1547; S. R. Hope, 1557.

<sup>3</sup> S. R. Pennant and V. Mold, 1506; V. Llanrwst, 1537; V. Llangernyw, 1551; Canon, 1552.

<sup>4</sup> Canon, 1570; S. R. Llansannan, 1580; Preb. Meifod, 1596; Preb. Llannefydd, 1598.

<sup>5</sup> Canon, 1587; R. Llanfechain, 1590-1600.

<sup>6</sup> B. Willis; but perhaps an error for Llanrhaiadr in Cimmeirch, of which he was rector.

<sup>7</sup> Put in here by the Parliamentary Committee, but ejected at the Restoration. He afterwards turned king's evidence, and discovered a treasonable plot, for which many were executed, but himself rewarded with a considerable benefice in Gloucestershire and the contempt of both parties.

<sup>8</sup> Student of Christ Church, Oxford, 1651; Public Orator, 1660; Prebendary of Westminster, 1663; Canon of Christ Church, 1670. Author of several volumes of *Sermons* distinguished for their "strength of reason, force of style, and brightness of imagination."

<sup>9</sup> *Llyfr Cŏch*.

<sup>10</sup> *The first translator of the Bible into Welsh*. R. Llanfyllin and S. R. Pennant, 1588; Bishop of Llandaff, 1595; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1601.

<sup>11</sup> V. Llanasa, 1602; V. Mold, 1612; S. R. Caerwys and compportioner of Llansannan, 1614; R. Denbigh and S. R. Pennant, 1615; Canon and R. Llanferras, 1616; Preb. of Meifod, 1617.

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| 1612.—PARRY, Henry <sup>1</sup>            | 1733.—WYNNE, William, A.M. <sup>6</sup>   |
| 1616.—GWYNNE, Lewis, A.M. <sup>2</sup>     | 1735.—POWELL, Peter, A.M. <sup>7</sup>    |
| 1625.—WILLIAMS, John, A.M. <sup>3</sup>    | 1747.—WORTHINGTON, W., D.D. <sup>8</sup>  |
| 1661.—JARVIS, Richard                      | 1778.—WILLIAMS, Edward, A.M. <sup>9</sup> |
| 1675.—PARRY, David                         | 1799.—JONES, Robert <sup>10</sup>         |
| 1682.—JONES, Edward, D.D.                  | 1824.—JONES, William Allen <sup>11</sup>  |
| 1705.—JONES, Thomas, D.D. <sup>4</sup>     | 1826.—STEELE, Samuel <sup>12</sup>        |
| 1720.—LANGFORD, Richard, A.M. <sup>5</sup> | 1837.—DAVIES, Walter, M.A. <sup>13</sup>  |

1850.—WILLIAMS, William, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Deac., 1830; Pr., 1831; P. C. Llanfair Talhaiarn, 1835; R. Gwaunysgor, 1847.

#### LLANARMON MYNYDD MAWR.<sup>14</sup>

THIS is one of the ancient *capellæ* to Llanrhaiadr, under which it is included in both the *Taxatio* of 1291 and the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1535. The district immemorably attached to it embraces an area of 2,590 acres, inclusive of 600 common and ten glebe. The tithes belong to the vicar of Llanrhaiadr, by whom, or his curate, the cure is served. Their commuted value was £133, and £6 to the parish clerk. Three benefactions, of £200 each, which fell to it by lot in 1731, 1751, and 1809, have been invested respectively in a tenement in Llanrhaiadr, called "Vicarage Fach," let at £71 per ann.; and one in Llangynog, called "Nant yr Henglawdd," let at £20 per annum; and the last benefaction invested in the Board of Queen Anne's Bounty.

The church, St. Garmon, is very small, consisting of a chancel and nave with a gallery at the west end. The services in 1750 were twice

<sup>1</sup> R. Llysfaen, 1606; R. Manafon, 1631.

<sup>2</sup> R. Newtown, 1614; R. Denbigh, 1621. Deprived. R. Manafon, 1660.

<sup>3</sup> Prebendary of Llannefydd, 1660.

<sup>4</sup> Son of Bishop Jones. V. Bettws yn Rhos, and Canon, 1702; S. R. Cwm and V. Llanfair Caereinion, 1705; V. Abergele, 1716.

<sup>5</sup> Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1716.

<sup>6</sup> Fellow of All Souls', Oxford; chaplain to Bishop Tanner; R. Llanfechain and Canon, 1735.

<sup>7</sup> R. Llanycil, 1725; Canon, 1731.

<sup>8</sup> V. Llanyblodwel, 1729; S. R. Darowen, 1737; S. R. Hope, 1751; Preb. Meifod, 1773 (p. 256).

<sup>9</sup> Chaplain to Bishop Shipley; V. Llansantffraid, 1770; Canon, 1777.

<sup>10</sup> R. Nannerch, 1779.

<sup>11</sup> Son of the above Robert Jones.

<sup>12</sup> P. C. Llansantffraid, G. Ceiriog, 1807.

<sup>13</sup> R. Llanwyddelan, 1803; R. Manafon, 1807. See his works, edited by D. Silvan Evans,—*Gwaith Gwallter Mechain*, 3 vols., Caerfyrddin.

<sup>14</sup> Also called "Llanarmon Fach."



on Sunday in the summer, and once in the winter. The baptisms, marriages, and funerals, used to be entered in the Registers of the mother church to the year 1720, since which time they have been kept distinct.

The interest of two benefactions, of £10 and £5 each, was distributed in 1742. The last, however, was lost through the insolvency of the holder of it ; and the other is probably included in the Llanrhaidr list, in which the inhabitants of this district have a common share.

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### LLANGADWALADR.<sup>1</sup>

LIKE Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr and Llangedwyn, this is one of the ancient *capellæ* of Llanrhaidr ; constituted into a parochial chapelry, with its own officers, most probably at the time when that rectory was appropriated to the Cathedral Church.

It contains three townships, with a total area of 2,793 acres. Tre'r-llan, in which the church is situate, contains 982 acres entirely surrounded by the parish of Llansilin ; the other two townships, Tregeiriog and Nantir, are situated north of the river Ceiriog, and surrounded by the parishes of Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog, Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog, and Llansilin. Population, 223.

The rectorial tithes were commuted, in 1840, for £92, to the Dean and Chapter of St. Asaph ; and £2 10s. to the parish clerk, in lieu of the bell-sheaf. The endowment of the incumbent arises from a payment of £50 per ann. by the Dean and Chapter, and the produce of £1,000 from Queen Anne's Bounty,<sup>2</sup> with £875 of which a tenement of twenty-six acres, adjoining the churchyard, was purchased in 1850, and a new farmhouse erected thereon. Now rented at £32 per ann. There is no glebe house. The perpetual curacy was constituted a vicarage in 1869, and is in the patronage of the Bishop.

The church is one of three dedicated in memory of Cadwaladr Fendigaid, King of the Britons,<sup>3</sup> the wake or festival being held on October 9th. It is small and plain, of early date, with a south porch and western bell-gable.<sup>4</sup> The east window, a trefoiled triplet. It was restored in 1840 at an expense of above £300, to which fund the Viscount Dungannon was the chief contributor. The massive Communion plate, consisting of flagon, chalice, and paten, were the gift of

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<sup>1</sup> Also called " Bettws Kadwaladr " in the *Taxatio*.

<sup>2</sup> Grants of £200 each were made in 1767, 1814, and 1825, and of £400 in 1824.

<sup>3</sup> The other two are Llangadwaladr, or Eglwys Ael, in Anglesey ; and Llangadwaladr, or Bishopston, in Monmouthshire.

<sup>4</sup> A notice of it in 1749 describes it as " a small, lightsome place. The chancel large and spacious in proportion to the church."



his ancestor, Sir John Trevor of Brynkinallt, Master of the Rolls. In the churchyard are some very fine yew trees of great size and age.

In 1720 Mrs. Mary Maurice, of Pantglas ucha, bequeathed £30, the interest to be divided among poor housekeepers not receiving parochial relief; and in 1733 Mr. Thomas Humphreys left £50 to the poor; but of this latter sum £40 has been lost.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES.

c. 1735.—HUGHES, John

—— EVANS, Maurice

1750.—WYNN, Thomas

1762.—OWEN, Thomas

1770.—OWEN, John

1780.—EVANS, John

1806.—JONES, John

1820.—GRIFFITHS, William

1825.—WILLIAMS, William.<sup>1</sup>

*Vicar*.—1837. WILLIAMS, Robert, M.A., Christchurch, Oxford; 3rd cl. Litt. Hum. and B.A., 1832; Deac., 1833; Pr., 1834; Curate of Llangernyw, 1833; P. C. Rhydygroesau, 1838; Hon. Canon of St. Asaph, 1872. Author of *The History of Aberconwy*, 1835; *Enwogion Cymru*, a Biographical Dictionary of Eminent Welshmen, 1852; *Lexicon Cornu-Britannicum*, 1862-65.

#### LLANGEDWYN.

LLANGEDWYN, originally a chapel of ease to Llanrhaiadr, embraces a township of the same name, and another called Scrwgan, having an area of 1,627 acres of the rateable value of £2,261 : 4 : 8, and a population of 269.

In both the *Taxatio* and the *Valor* it is included under the mother parish, and shares its fortunes. Hence the Commutation Returns gave £232 2s. to the Dean and Chapter of St. Asaph, and £3 to the parish clerk. The incumbent's stipend consists of £80, rental of Cae Mawr in Llangollen, purchased with £400 Queen Anne's Bounty, met by benefactions<sup>2</sup> to the same amount, and £60 augmentation by the Dean and Chapter in 1851.<sup>3</sup> There is no glebe house or land; but one is provided by the patron, Sir W. Williams Wynn, Bart.

The church has inscriptions on the wall-plate of the chancel commemorative of the two last occasions on which it has been rebuilt. "Anno Dom'i millesimo quingentesimo vicesimo septimo" (1527), and "Rebuilt A.D. 1869." The old church consisted of a small nave with

<sup>1</sup> R. Llanarmon, D. C., 1825.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Mary Vaughan, £200 in 1721, and Dame F. Williams-Wynn, £200 in 1762. This last benefaction was made "in consideration of the right of nomination being made over to her by the Bishop."

<sup>3</sup> The sum previously paid was £30 per ann.; but it was now increased on the understanding that the patron should provide a house rent free.

a wooden steeple at the west end, and a modern vestry and porch of brick in imitation Norman. From the Rural Dean's Report for 1749 we learn that the rood-loft which it once possessed had been "converted into a gallery for Sir W. Williams' family, who had a seat adjoining to the chapel."

The new church, planned by Mr. Ferrey, F.S.A., consists of chancel and nave with a south lean-to aisle of three bays; retaining the western porch, but having a new vestry at the east end of the aisle. The roof of the chancel is ceiled in timber, with carved bosses, that of the nave being open. The east window, a triple lancet, contains stained glass in illustration of the birth of our Lord, with the emblems of the Evangelists; and a brass beneath records that it was erected in 1853, and dedicated to the memory of Charles Watkin Williams-Wynn, M.P. for Montgomery for thirty-four years, President of the Board of Control for India, 1822-23, and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, ob. 1850; and his wife. Two small and pretty windows, on the north and south sides respectively, represent the Baptism of Our Lord and His journey to Emmaus, and are memorial to John Bonnor of Brynwgwalia, 1848, by his sons. Another, on the north side, representing the Annunciation, is in memory of Rose, wife of the Rev. R. M. Bonnor, vicar of Rhuabon, 1845. There are mural tablets on the east wall to "Edward Vaughan of Lwydiarth (1718), and Mary his wife (1722), by their children, Mary Strangeways and Anne Williams-Wynn;" in the south aisle to several children of the above Ch. W. W. Wynn, and at the west end several to the Maurices and Bonnors of Brynwgwalia. The recumbent effigy of an ecclesiastic in his vestments lies against the south wall of the chancel; and in the porch are preserved an early incised slab and an old octagonal font. The new font was presented by the Misses Louisa Alexandra and Mary Nesta Williams-Wynn.

The National School, erected at "Wernoleu," on the confines of Llansilin parish, in 1824, at a cost of £350, is almost entirely supported by the patron.

The charities consist of £100 bequeathed by Mrs. Strangeways in 1730, secured on Llangedwyn Hall estate; a similar sum bequeathed in 1803 by Dame Frances Williams-Wynn; and a sum of £62,<sup>1</sup> secured on a mortgage of the tolls of the Llangollen district of turnpike roads.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES.

17....—MAURICE, Richard, M.A. <sup>2</sup>	1755.—MAURICE, Richard, A.M. <sup>4</sup>
1748.—POOLE, Anthony <sup>3</sup>	1802.—PRICE, Morgan <sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Arising from sums of £20 bequeathed by Mrs. Mary Wynne of Abercynlleth, 1720, and Mrs. Gwen Maurice of Brynwgwalia, 1769; £10 by Mr. David Parry of Penybryn, 1732; and an unknown benefactor of £12.

<sup>2</sup> Of Brynwgwalia. Ob. 1732.

<sup>4</sup> P.C. Trevor and V. Llansilin, 1776.

<sup>3</sup> R. Mallwyd, 1755.

<sup>5</sup> Of Cefn Llyfnog.

1824.—DANIEL, John

1852.—HEATON, Hugh Edw., M.A.<sup>2</sup>1843.—ROBERTS, David, M.A.<sup>1</sup>1859.—WILLIAMS, W. V., M.A.<sup>3</sup>

1869.—OWEN, Richard Trevor, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Scholar, third class, Math. et Phys., 1859; Deac., 1860; Pr., 1861; Curate of Llangollen, 1860; Assistant Master in Llandovery School, 1863; C. Northop, 1863; C. Rhuabon, 1865.

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#### LLANYBLODWEL.<sup>4</sup>

THIS parish contains the townships of Abertanat, Blodwel, Bryn, Llyn-clys, and a detached portion called Cefn y Maes, embracing an area of 4,472 acres of the rateable value of £5,776; but for ecclesiastical purposes a portion of Llyn-clys has been attached to Moreton, and Cefn y Maes transferred to Rhydycroesau. Remaining population, 1,000.

The “Bodowanham”<sup>5</sup> of *Domesday*, A.D. 1066, seems to be its earliest equivalent; and this is confirmed by a record of A.D. 1272, which states that “Blodowan, Clanordaffe, Bren, and Blodnorvawr,”<sup>6</sup> were in the Walcheria of Oswestry, and involved a territory nearly equivalent to the present parish. The church was accounted to be in the patronage of the Fitz Alans, and went to the crown during the minority of Richard Fitz Alan, afterwards Earl of Arundel. During this minority (A.D. 1282), “the King, as custos of John Fitz Alan’s heir, presented William, son of Nicholas Zouch, to the vacant church,”<sup>7</sup> which was returned in the *Taxatio* of A.D. 1291 as “Rectoria, £6, dec. 12s.; vicaria, £2 : 13 : 4, non. dec.” Soon after this Earl Richard granted the advowson to Bishop Llewelyn, A.D. 1293-1314; but as the royal licence had not been obtained, and the grant was void by the Statute of Mortmain, Richard II remitted the forfeiture, and confirmed the grant to Bishop Spridlington and his successors (“ad proprios usus”) on the

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<sup>1</sup> R. Caerwys, 1852; R. Llandyrnog, 1857.

<sup>2</sup> V. Bettws yn Rhos, 1859.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llandrillo yn Rhos, 1869.

<sup>4</sup> The derivation and meaning are doubtful. According to some it is “*F Blaid-Wal*,” i. e., “the division line” of Offa’s Dyke, which passes through it. But the last syllable should rather be *foel*; and perhaps the truer definition will be “the flowery hill,” from its warm and sunny aspect. This place is the original of the late Archdeacon Wilson Evans’ *Rectory of Valehead*.

<sup>5</sup> The termination “ham” corresponding to “llan,” and “owan” indicating either that “y waun,” as in Porthywaun, was an earlier form of the name of the place: e. g., Llanyblodwaun, with which compare “Blodowan”; or else that “wanham” is a corruption of “vechan,” to distinguish it from “Blodnorvawr” below.

<sup>6</sup> Supposed by Eyton (*Shropshire*, x, pp. 353-54) to be “Blodwel, Glanrafon, Bryn, and Cefn Blodwel.”

<sup>7</sup> 10 Edward I.



same terms as the Earl had held of his grandfather, Edward I; and on condition of his providing a chaplain to say daily Mass in his private Chapel in honour of the Virgin, and for the souls of his ancestors and his own for ever.<sup>1</sup> The "proprii usus" are more specifically explained in the account of the spiritualities on the death of Bishop Child, A.D. 1389, where we find "*Ecclesia de Blodwell mensæ suæ appropriata*," and valued at £8. According to the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, 1535, these rectorial tithes were leased under the Chapter seal to one Ievan for forty shillings a year; the vicarial being returned at £7 12s.; dec. Regi, 15s. 2½d. But besides these, there were other tithes, which throw much light on the earliest history of the parish, and show that parts of it formed portions of other properties elsewhere, just as the detached portion of Cefynymaes itself formed part of this parish; for in Abertanant<sup>2</sup> two-thirds of the great tithes belonged to the rector and vicar of Llansantffraid; in Llyncllys, a moiety to the improprator and the vicar of Oswestry; and in Bryn, a moiety of the whole to the rector and vicar of Pennant.<sup>3</sup> So that in the Commutation Returns we find in the township of—

	VICAR.			PAR. CLERK.					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Abertanant	35	15	6	0	14	0	38	17	5
							12	19	1
Blodwel	35	0	0	1	10	6	203	0	0
							61	10	0
Bryn	82	0	0	1	10	0	20	10	0
							54	17	6
Llyncllys	71	0	0	0	13	0	5	0	0
	£223	15	6	£4	17	6	£396	14	0

In 1870 the Ecclesiastical Commissioners transferred £70 per ann.<sup>4</sup> from the rectorial tithes to the Vicar, who has also an excellent house, built in 1833, and greatly improved about the year 1846, and having attached to it twenty-four acres of glebe. The living is in the patronage of the Bishop of the diocese.

The church, St. Michael's (Sept. 29th), is in its ground-plan a double parallelogram; but with the western half of the north aisle cut off, in the beginning of the last century, to form a vestry and school-room. A description of it given in 1749, as "consisting of a chancel, nave, north aisle, two private galleries, and a small steeple with one bell," still holds good save in the last particular, for in 1855-56 a new tower of peculiar form and construction was designed and built at

<sup>1</sup> 1 Ric. II, 2, 3. A.D. 1357.

<sup>2</sup> Abertanant formed part of Merionethshire till 34 Henry VIII.

<sup>3</sup> From the Pennant terrier of 1636 it appears that there was a chapel at Pentre in Tre'rbyn, in which prayers were read by a layman; there are now no vestiges of it.

<sup>4</sup> Also £32: 14: 3, in 1853, to Rhydygroesau.



the sole cost of the vicar, Mr. Parker, at the west end, to which it is attached by an archway inscribed, "From lightning and tempest, from earthquake and fire, Good Lord deliver us." An elaborately carved screen<sup>1</sup> extends across both nave and aisles, and divides the chancel from the rest of the church. The roof, which is richly coloured, is divided into panels, and ornamented with pendant posts and carved bosses. The reredos, altar-table, and rails are all profusely decorated with screen-work richly gilt and coloured. The organ-gallery, in the north aisle, was re-erected in 1835 by subscription and grant from the Church Building Society; the other occupies the west end of the south aisle. The pulpit and desk have been removed from their former position in 1812 to the south wall. The font has been re-wrought after the Norman style. The chancel-roof, bearing the date 1847-48, the south porch (1849), windows (1850, 1853), north porch (1851), as well as the tower and the new National School, were all designed and given by the same vicar. The east window contains stained glass to the memory of James Donne, vicar, 1844; and that of the north aisle, representing the Healing of the Centurion's Servant and the Confession of the Centurion at the Cross, is memorial to John Edwards Donne, lieutenant in the Bombay Engineers, 1851. Many monuments with their armorial bearings commemorate former members of the families of Tanat,<sup>2</sup> Matthewes, and Bridgeman.

In the churchyard are preserved two ancient stone coffins with head-spaces, the one for a male, and the other for a female; and also a fragment of an early sepulchral slab. The churchyard wall used to be divided among the several townships for their respective shares in its repair.

The old School, erected in the church in 1719, is now used as a library, a new national one having been built by Mr. Parker, together with a master's house, in 1860. There was an endowment of £6 per ann. left to it by Sir John Bridgeman. The new School and house are of an ecclesiastical type, and form a picturesque object in the scenery.

At *Porthywaun* also, in the midst of the limestone quarries, a National School, together with a master's house, was built in 1839, and services have been held therein ever since. A small chancel-apse was added in 1870, which is boarded off in accordance with the requirements of the new Elementary Education Act.

"Moreton Chapel" being partly in the township of Llyncllys, baptisms and other offices administered there were registered at Llanyblodwell until it was constituted into a separate district.

<sup>1</sup> Mention is made of this by Vicar Worthington in 1736, in the matter of a dispute concerning a seat.

<sup>2</sup> From the heiress of one branch of the Tanats the Abertanat estate passed by marriage to the Godolphins, now Dukes of Leeds; and from another, the Blodwell Hall estate to the Matthewes of Court, and from them to the Bridgemans, now Earls of Bradford.

There is a rent-charge of £1 6s. per ann. on *Tynycoed*, in Brynkrowa, belonging to the poor.

## VICARS.

1537.—Ieu'n ap Tudur	1713.—POWELL, William, A.M. <sup>3</sup>
1560.—John ap Ieu'n	1729.—WORTHINGTON, William, A.M. <sup>4</sup>
1575.—VAUGHAN, Thomas	1747.—PARRY, Randolph, B.A. <sup>5</sup>
1579.—BRERETON, Peter	1753.—LLOYD, David, LL.B. <sup>6</sup>
1629.—TANATT, Edward, A.M. <sup>1</sup>	1761.—WILLIAMS, John, LL.B.
1662.—KYFFIN, David, A.M.	1790.—EVANS, David
1668.—NIGHTINGALE, Robt., A.M. <sup>2</sup>	1798.—DONNE, James, D.D. <sup>7</sup>
1672.—LLOYD, Lewis	1844.—PARKER, John, M.A. <sup>8</sup>
1675.—HUMPHREYS, Evan	

1860.—FFOULKES, Thomas Brown, M.A., Queen's College, Cambridge; Deac., 1840; Pr., 1843; Curate of Knockin, 1843-60.

<sup>1</sup> Deprived by the Parliamentary sequestrators; but, on the Restoration, promoted by Bishop Griffith to the vicarage of Llansilin.

<sup>2</sup> V. Pennant, 1665; V. Llansantffraid yn Mechain, 1672; R. Llanerfyl, 1675.

<sup>3</sup> Dean of St. Asaph, 1731 (p. 244).

<sup>4</sup> Preb. Meifod, 1773 (p. 256).

<sup>5</sup> Canon, 1746; R. Llandyssil, 1753.

<sup>6</sup> Canon, 1748; R. Llanycil, 1753; R. Cerrigydrudion, 1760.

<sup>7</sup> Head Master of Oswestry School, 1796-1833.

<sup>8</sup> Of Sweeney. R. Llanmerewig, 1827-44, where also he has left many memorials of his skill and zealous service.

## THE DEANERY OF LLANRWST.

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THIS deanery was formed by an Order in Council dated 13th December, 1844, for the subdivision of the deanery of "Rhos and Rhyfoniog" into those of Denbigh and Llanrwst. It comprises the fourteen parishes of Cerrigydrudion, Llanfihangel, and Llangwm, which were reckoned in the *Taxatio* as part of the deanery of *Dinmael*, Gwytherin in *Rhyfoniog*, and Eglwysfach, Eglwysrhos, Llanddoget, Llandrillo, Colwyn, Llangystenyn, Llanrwst, Capel Garmon, Pentre Voelas and Yspytty Ifan in that of *Rhyfoniog*.

### CERRIGYDRUDION.

The orthography of this name is very uncertain, for whilst all the earlier parochial records call it "Kaer-y-druidion" (the camp of the Druids), its present popular designation is "Cerrig y Druidion" (the stones of the Druids), whereas the critical current runs in favour of the name given at the head of this paper (the stones of the brave ones). Hard by, on "Penygaer," was the camp of Caractacus, whither he retreated after his defeat by the Romans; and some large stones, subsequently known as "Carchar Cynrig Rwth," which may have been erected in memory of some of his brave companions, may also have suggested the Druidic connexion. The ecclesiastical name, moreover, is not altogether beyond dispute, for "Llanfair *Faellen*," as it used to be called, can hardly be the Welsh form of Mary *Magdalen*; but rather, like the other Llanfairs, *e. g.*, Talhaiarn, Dyffryn Clwyd, Caer-einion, took its second name from the features of the district, where the name "Afallen"<sup>1</sup> still occurs occasionally in the nomenclature.<sup>2</sup>

The parish is very extensive, partly cultivated, and all enclosed;<sup>3</sup> divided among the townships of Tre'rllan, Tre'rfoel, Tre Hafod y maidd,

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<sup>1</sup> Whether this be from the former prevalence of the "pren afallen" in the district, or a corruption of "Maen Helen" or some such form, I would not say. The old British roadway called "Sarn Helen" crosses the district.

<sup>2</sup> Other names suggestive of an interesting local history are, *Cae'r Groes*, *Maenllwyd*, *Y Garreglwyd*, *Y Carreg Corfa*, *Bryn Saint*, *Elor garreg*, *Ffridd gistfaen*, *Rhos Chwareufa*, *Nant y Crogwr*, *Publer bele*.

<sup>3</sup> In 1847 only 9,304 acres were enclosed.

Tre 'r Abbot ucha, Trebrys ucha, Tre 'r Cwm, Llathwryd, and Clust y blaidd,<sup>1</sup> embracing a rateable area of 8,058 acres, rated at £4,320, with a population of 1,199.

"Evan ap Llewelyn of Kinmeirch, surnamed Gwas Patrige," or, as written by his picture in the east window of Caerydruidion, written 1504, "Evanus Patricius Animarum Confessor," was the first founder of "y<sup>e</sup> Church of Caerydruidion, about the year 440, and dedicated it to Mary Magdalen."<sup>2</sup> The *Taxatio* of 1291 next records "Eccl'ia de Kerrye Edrudion taxat' £1 : 6 : 8 ; non decimat'. In this return it forms one of the four parishes which constituted the deanery of Dinmael, the others being Llangwm, Llanfihangel, and Bettws. The next notice is one of great interest, as follows : "20 Apr. 1506.—David Bp., in consideration of small income of Kerig y druidion, scarce worth 7 marc p. ann. 'ad laudem Dei et Sanctæ Mariæ Magd. et S'ti Ienn nuncupati Gwasbatrye vanagh patroni ibid.' united and annexed to the same 'totam nostram portionem de Nantglyn Uweh-mynydd, viz. de messuagiis et tenem' voc' Elphygarret, Llynkymer, Llechwed, et Kynllwyn Tythyn y gwyn ap y talwyn, Mael y dder-weserw, Letty'r mynach, Havot y maidd, Pant y Kryavolen, Pennau'r penrhyn, Havot y ddyr,—salvis 2s. 6d. pro lactual' ultra montan'." <sup>3</sup> Here we may easily recognise Elor Garreg, Llyn Cymmer, Llechwedd Brynllwyd (or Crynllwyn), Tygwyn ar Alwen, Aberdrywes (which are still the names of places on the borders of this and Llanfihangel, Cyffylliog, Nantglyn, and Llanrhaiadr parishes), and Lletty'r Mynach (supposed to have been a summer residence of the monks of Aberconway), Hafod ymaidd, Pantygirolen, Pennau'r penrhyn, and Hafod Eddig, all of which lie in the direction of Pentrevoelas and Ysptyty. This large addition to the glebe land is returned at 33s. 4d. in the *Valor* of 1535, which gives, "Rector' de Kayriedredion valet clare £10 : 7 : 10, dec. £1 : 0 : 9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>." The glebe land now, including 100 acres of mountain allotment, amounts to 184 acres, valued at £116. The tithes have been commuted at £352. There is also a good house erected in 1790, and greatly improved in 1871.<sup>4</sup> Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The church, St. Mary Magdalen (July 22nd), founded, as has already been stated, about the middle of the fifth century, was repaired and enlarged in 1503, either by the lengthening of the chancel, or the erection of the chantry on the south of the chancel commonly called "The Gilar Chapel." The junction of the chancel and nave is indicated externally by a break in the wall, and internally by the "Pren Pyntheg,"<sup>5</sup> i. e., the ground-beam of the old rood, at which the older

<sup>1</sup> In 1710 Trer Abad uchaf was called "Tre tu hwnt ir Alwen"; and there was also a ninth, named "Tre 'r gyfer." (Z.) Tre 'r Abad formed part of the grant of Llewelyn ap Iorwerth to Aberconway Abbey in 1198.

<sup>2</sup> Par. Register.

<sup>3</sup> Z., *sub nom.*

<sup>4</sup> At an outlay of £1,200, of which £550 were from dilapidations, and the remainder by the rector.

<sup>5</sup> This name, which I have only met with here and at Llangwm, appears



church people still bend the knee. The screen or loft itself is gone, but two narrow windows survive to light the space which it once obscured. The roof above the sacarium is ceiled in timber, or, as it was anciently called, "mooded." In the small Decorated windows on the north side are preserved a few relics of ancient glass similar in pattern to fragments at Bettws and Gwyddelwern, and probably the work of the same artists. The walls also show indications of ancient paintings whitewashed over, which should be looked to when the much needed restoration of the church is undertaken. The pulpit has evidently occupied several different positions on the north side. The desk is dated 1684, the altar-rails 1707, and the table 1755. The font is a modern circular basin of marble let into the wall like a stoup, like those at Bettws and at Llangwm. Each of these churches, moreover, lays claim to an ancient octagonal font said to have been removed from one or other of them by one of the Wynnes of Garthmeilio, now serving as a water-trough on the side of the Holyhead Road, about a hundred yards below Pont y Glyn. Externally, the eastern gable is remarkable for a small crucifix inserted in it; of which one other instance is said to exist at Canterbury. The east window is a comparatively modern triplet inserted within an older hooding of different character. On the north side a doorway has been closed up, and two stones commemorate former rectors, Gabr. Hughes and Robt. Wynne, 1657. The "Gilar Chapel" contains an armorial tablet, with a Latin inscription, to Thomas Price of Gilar, 1668; and another tablet to the memory of Margaret Price, 1723, erected by her son, the Baron, who so distinguished himself in Parliament by his patriotic resistance to the grant of this lordship to the Duke of Portland, and proved so generous a benefactor to the poor of this his native parish.

The Registers, which commence with "Jesus Emanuel, 1590," contain many interesting notices. That relating to the foundation has already been in part quoted, the remainder of it carries on the list of rectors to Gabriel Hughes, 1639. Under 1625 we read, "seats set up by the wardens"; 1640, "the lesser bell caste by Mr. Clybery of Holt for £2 : 5 : 6"; 1646, "Common Prayer Book taken away, 25 Febr."; 1652, "Stella caudata,"—an ominous description of a comet that appeared on the 7th December, and of the dire calamities it presaged; 1653, Thomas Wynne sworn registrar. From this time, however, to 1660 the entries are deficient, save a few that are afterwards inserted.

At "Cappele," about three miles from the parish church, on the road from Yspytty to Bala, there is said to have existed formerly, as the name implies, an ancient chapel; but whether simply for the ease-ment of the parish church, or for the accommodation of the tenants,

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to indicate the age "fifteen" at which young people were held to attain "years of discretion," and become communicants, none others being allowed to remain in the choir during the celebration.

in that part, of the abbot of Aberconway, is not certain. The name of the neighbouring district, Cwm Tir y Myncech, would favour the latter supposition ; but nothing is now known of it.

1.—The *Almshouses* were erected by Baron PRICE in 1707, and endowed by him (will dated 1730) with “Pigott’s Meadow” and other lands near Denbigh, amounting to 22 a. 35 p., and rented in 1837 at £97 10s. The houses consist of one room each, and over the central door there is a commemorative tablet surmounted with the Baron’s coat of arms, and inscribed with appropriate texts. The inmates must be communicants of the Church, and above sixty years of age. Their number, owing to the improved value of the endowment, has been raised from six to ten, and they receive 3s. 6d. each per week. The trustees are four in number.

2.—1689. Ellis DAVIES, of Tynypwll, left a tenement, “Ty Du,” containing about ninety-one acres, for the use, relief, and better maintenance of the poor people for ever. This trust having been much in Chancery, has been involved in great expenses. Under a scheme of the Charity Commissioners a boys’ school was erected in 1847, out of the accumulations of the rental, and an endowment of £30 per ann. thereout assigned to it. The total income of this charity is £117 per ann.

3.—Thomas PARRY by will (1689) left £100 for the poor. Half of this sum was lost by the bankruptcy of the borrower, the other half is about to be invested in the official trustee. To make up the deficient moiety, the rent of the old school-house (1833), now converted into a cottage, has been assigned.

4.—Two other benefactions, £5, by Rowland EDWARDS (1722), and £1 by John OWEN, were used at the time.

The Girls’ School was erected in 1870, at a cost of above £900, on glebe land given and conveyed by the rector. Towards this William JONES, Esq., Catherine Street, Liverpool, gave in all £300,<sup>1</sup> and further has endowed it with the rental of Penybryn Farm, £52 per ann.

#### RECTORS.

1503.—John ap Robin ap ..... 1561.—Morgan ap David  
1518.—Rich. Griffith ap Ednyved<sup>2</sup> 1574.—LLOYD, David, LL.B.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Other subscriptions were,—Privy Council, £144; Carey Fund, £100; National Society, £55; and Bishop Short, £20; Mr. Blezard, Mr. Mainwaring, and the Rector, making up the deficient £100.

<sup>2</sup> Fourth son of Rhys ap Meredydd ap Tudur, standard-bearer of Henry VII at Bosworth. “Richard y Person Gwyn, yr hwn a fu Abad yn Aberconway, ac yn ei amser i trodd y ffydd ac i colled ef ei le ac a briododd a’c fu wedi hynny Person Cerrig y Druidion.” (*Arch. Camb.*, 1869, p. 26.)

<sup>3</sup> V. Eglwysfach, 1564; V. Llangernyw, 1580.

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| 1581.—EVANS, Hugh, M.A. <sup>1</sup>      | 1757.—PRICE, Thomas <sup>9</sup>                 |
| 1587.—VAUGHAN, William, D.D. <sup>2</sup> | 1760.—LLOYD, David, B.A. <sup>10</sup>           |
| 1599.—PRICE, Foulk, D.D. <sup>3</sup>     | 1763.—HUMPHREYS, Humphrey,<br>M.A. <sup>11</sup> |
| 1614.—DAVIES, Evan, M.A.                  | 1778.—LEWIS, Ambrose, A.M. <sup>12</sup>         |
| 1639.—HUGHES, Gabriel, A.M. <sup>4</sup>  | 1784.—PRICE, James <sup>13</sup>                 |
| 1657.—WYNNE, Robert <sup>5</sup>          | 1800.—ROWLAND, William <sup>14</sup>             |
| 1697.—JONES, Maurice, B.D. <sup>6</sup>   | 1820.—ELLIS, John <sup>15</sup>                  |
| 1725.—WYNNE, John <sup>7</sup>            | 1841.—LLOYD, John <sup>16</sup>                  |
| 1731.—WYNNE, Evan, A.M. <sup>8</sup>      |  |

1868.—JONES, Jenkin, St. David's, Lampeter; Deac., 1847; Pr., 1848; P. C. Gwernaffield, 1850-58; P. C. Gwersyllt, 1858-68.

### EGLWYSFACH.

THIS name is apparently derived from the situation of the church in a nook or recess of the valley of the Conway; but it is also ascribed to Bâch ap Carwed, a chieftain who retired into this part in the seventh century, and is said to have dedicated the close of his life to religion: indeed, the steeple of the church was said to have formed a part of his house.<sup>17</sup>

The parish contains five townships, Esgair Ebrill, Pennant, Cefn y Coed, and Bodnod, in Denbighshire, and Maenan in Carnarvonshire; embracing a total area of 9,738 acres, of the rateable value of £6,777, and a population of 1,427.

<sup>1</sup> Dean of St. Asaph, 1560; Preb. of St. Paul's, V. Northop, and S. R. Cwm.

<sup>2</sup> V. Llanrhaiadr, 1574; Preb. Meifod, 1596; V. Rhuddlan, 1597; Preb. Llanefydd, 1598.

<sup>3</sup> Preb. of Llanfair and V. Gresford, 1609; R. Llandrinio, 1614.

<sup>4</sup> V. Gwyddelwern, 1632.

<sup>5</sup> Canon of St. Asaph.

<sup>6</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxon.; R. Llandegla, 1678; R. Llanychan, 1690; Canon, 1702.

<sup>7</sup> Of Garthmeilio. Chaplain to Bishop Hare; S. R. Corwen and Canon, 1727; R. Llanymynech, 1731.

<sup>8</sup> Brother of John Wynne, V. Llandrillo, 1731; V. Hope, 1737.

<sup>9</sup> V. Cilcain, 1739; R. Caerwys, 1740; V. Chor. and R. St. George, 1750; Canon, 1747.

<sup>10</sup> R. Llanddoget, 1720; R. Gwytherin, 1738; Canon, 1748; R. Llanycil, 1753.

<sup>11</sup> Preb. of Salisbury; R. Llanrwst, 1778.

<sup>12</sup> R. Llandegla, 1751; R. Gwytherin, 1753; Canon, 1779.

<sup>13</sup> R. Llanfechain, 1800.

<sup>14</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxon.; R. Llanfihangel, G. M., 1799.

<sup>15</sup> V. Llangwm, 1814.

<sup>16</sup> R. Llanycil, 1826.

<sup>17</sup> *Eminent Welshmen.*



When Edward I transferred the Abbey of Aberconway to Maenan, anciently called Aber-llechog, he obtained, in 1284, from Bishop Anian the grant of this rectory for the Abbot and Convent, giving in exchange to the Bishop the advowson of Rhuddlan.<sup>1</sup> The *Taxatio* of 1291 gives its value as follows: "Eccl'ia de Eglewys Ewach tax'—Rectoria, £10; dec., £1. Vicaria, £4:2:1; dec., 8s. 2½d." And the *Valor* of 1535, describing the rectory as appropriate to the "Monasterium sive Abbatia de Conwey," returns its value at £13:5:8, and the vicarage at £6:13:4; dec., 13s. 4d. There were, however, two charges upon the rectorial tithes which indicate an earlier but now forgotten connexion between this and the churches of Llandrillo and Abergelle,—probably, however, referring to the formation of the parish out of those two larger ones,—"*Porciones ex prædicta rectoria de Vach annuatim solutæ viz., Ecclesie de Abergelle 10s., et rectori de Llandrillo, 6s. 8d.*" At the Dissolution, when the site of the Abbey<sup>2</sup> and the township of Maenan were granted by Queen Elizabeth, in 1563, to Eliseus Wynne, ancestor of the present Lord Newborough, the tithes seem to have been taken possession of by the Crown, and granted at its pleasure; for in 1610 Sir John Wynn of Gwyder purchased them from the King for the endowment of a hospital lecture and school at Llanrwst.<sup>3</sup> The terrier of 1730 gives these further particulars: "The parish consists of eight townships, out of which the vicar has but one, called the township of Bodnod. The other seven townships are an impropriation, and are applied towards charitable uses, viz., maintenance of the almshouse, the free school, and lecture of Llanrwst; but the vicar has the fourth part of wool and lamb and lactuals through the whole parish, and nothing else." The seven townships were made up of Cefn y Coed, Pennant, Esgairebrill, Maenan ucha, Maenan ganol, Maenan isa, and Garthmyor. In addition to which there was a *modus* or composition of £3 for the demesne of Maenan, and "three fourths of the small tithes, belonging from custom to the rectorial." They were commuted in 1837 as follows. Those in

	Almshouse and Site.	Vicar.	Parish Clerk.
Denbighshire . .	487 0 0 ...	246 0 0 ...	12 0 0
Carnarvonshire . .	230 0 0 ...	5 2 0 ...	4 0 0

The vicarage house was erected in 1828, and has attached to it an acre and a half of glebe, with three acres of allotment.

<sup>1</sup> There is a clause in the grant to the effect that if the Bishop or his successors should on any occasion attempt to retract the advowson, the King or his successors should do the same with respect to Rhuddlan.

<sup>2</sup> None of the old building now remains, a new house having been erected on its site.

<sup>3</sup> From the Charity Report, 1837, it appears uncertain whether this was done altogether with his own money, or with money left in trust to him for that purpose by Thomas Williams of Dolwyddelan and London.



The church, St. Martin's (festival, Nov. 11th), was rebuilt about the year 1782, and consists of a nave with two parallel aisles, a tower at the west end, and a porch on the south side, this last being dated 1837. The pillars of the arcades dividing the nave from the aisles are square, and the arches round, the windows also being of the same character. The old church was described in 1749 as consisting of "one long aisle and a gallery"; and the new one, in 1791, as having "the alleys very well paved; the seats, screens, and benches placed irregularly, as they were in the old church. Application is now being made to the Court for a faculty to dispose of the new ground in order to pay the arrears for the building, and to pew it regularly." The pews at present are square and newish, but with some old benches mixed up with them. The principal monuments are to Howell Holland Edwards of Pennant Ereithlyn, Canon of Westminster, and founder of St. Mary's Church in Llanrwst, ob. 1846; and Caroline his wife, ob. 1834; David Owen, forty-five years vicar of the parish, ob. 1868; John Forbes of Bodnod, ob. 1821; and Mary his wife, the heiress of Bodnod, 1823; Lieut. John Hanmer, R.N., 1862; and Kenyon Hanmer, B.C.L., 1858. The Communion-plate (of pewter) is dated 1710.

The National School was erected by subscription in 1834, and endowed in 1835 by the Rev. H. Holland Edwards with £700, Three per Cent. Reduced Bank Annuities, in the names of the Bishop and Vicar; but with a power to the Bishop, in case of misrule, to apply it to the clothing of twenty poor families of sober and religious habits, to be chosen by the Vicar.

The other charities are:

1. KYFFIN, THOS., of Maenan, gave in 1762 a deedpoll for £100, and in 1786 added another of £60, subsequently increased by interest to a total of £169 12s., on the Wrexham, Ruthin, and Denbigh Turnpike Trust.

2. Rent-charge of £5 4s. per ann. on Penllyn, in Bodnod (donor and date unknown), for bread.

3. A rent-charge of £1 on Glanywern, in the parish of Llandrillo, mentioned in the Rural Dean's Report for 1791, is now lost.

#### VICARS.

1537.—David ap Owen <sup>1</sup>	1613.—THOMAS, Edward
1558.—Rees ap Thomas or Wynne <sup>2</sup>	1660.—Ffoulkes, J. <sup>4</sup>
1564.—LLOYD, David, LL.B. <sup>3</sup>	1662.—LEWIS, Humphrey
1583.—HOLLAND, William	1675.—JONES, Richard <sup>5</sup>
1588.—EVANS, Roderic	1680.—LLOYD, Robert <sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> And R. Llanddoget annexed.

<sup>2</sup> V. Nannerch, 1537.

<sup>3</sup> R. Cerrigydrudion, 1574; V. Llangernyw, 1580.

<sup>4</sup> V. Gwyddelwern, 1635. Deprived 1653.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llanddoget, 1662.

<sup>6</sup> Forced by Bishop Jones to resign this for a vicar choralship, to make way for Humphreys, who had an estate in the parish. (*Proceedings against Bishop of St. Asaph*, p. 47.) R. Hirnant, 1717.

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| 1697.—HUMPHREYS, John                   | 1756.—LANGFORD, Richard, A.M. <sup>3</sup> |
| 1702.—KYFFIN, George <sup>1</sup>       | 1785.—HUGHES, John <sup>4</sup>            |
| 1713.—ROBERTS, John, LL.B. <sup>2</sup> | 1810.—PARRY, Robert                        |
| 1735.—LLOYD, David                      | 1826.—OWEN, David.                         |
| 1745.—KYFFIN, J.                        |  |

1868.—NOEL, David, Lampeter ; Deac., 1848 ; Pr., 1849 ; Curate, St. Mary's, Cardiff, 1850 ; Gelligaer, 1854 ; V. Llanfabon, 1860.

### EGLWYS RHOS, *otherwise* LLANRHOS.

THE simple name of "Eglwys Rhos" (the church in the "rhos" or moorland) indicates its early antiquity and its pre-eminence among the churches of that cantref or district when the native princes of Wales had their residence at Deganwy, within its limits ; just as the other name, "Llanrhos", or, more fully, "Llanfair yn Rhos", *i. e.*, "St. Mary's in Rhos", indicates the influence of the Cistercian monks of Aberconway, who on some occasion of its re-erection dedicated it, as their custom was, in the name of their favourite saint. It was here, at Bodysgallen, that Caswallon-Law-Hir lived, who gave permission to S. Cyndeyrn to settle at Llanelwy ; and in this church lies buried Maelgwn Gwynedd, the founder of the see.<sup>5</sup>

The parish contains eight townships,<sup>6</sup>—Penrhyn, Gloddaeth, Ferm, Cwm, Bryniau, Penclas, Tref-hir, and Tre Ferry ; embracing an area of 4,000 acres, of which 2,375 a. 3 r. 34 p. are of the rateable value of £10,696 5s., with a population of 961.

Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, in 1198, made a considerable grant hereout to the Abbey of Aberconway, which he had just founded. The limits are described in the charter, in which the frequent occurrence of such expressions as "terre arabilis monachorum", "terre culte monachorum", "prati monachorum", indicates that the monks had already become an important element in the district. The boundaries are described as follows, and some of them may still be recognised :— "Ascend the Conwy to a small spring at *Hemeron* ; thence to the great stones in *Erw-voruran* (qu. the cromlech ?) ; thence to *Erwedus*, the top of *Carreg wyber*, *Ryuoryn*, *Gwernegof*, *Cro-guryn* ; thence fol-

<sup>1</sup> R. Llanddoget, 1686.

<sup>2</sup> R. Llanddulas, 1710.

<sup>3</sup> Fellow of Jesus Coll., Oxford.

<sup>4</sup> R. Penegoes, 1799 ; R. Lllysfaen, 1810.

<sup>5</sup> He had fled hither for refuge from the yellow pestilence alluded to in the oracular and enigmatic stanza :

" Pan ddelo 'r pryf rhyfedd  
I Forfa Rhianedd,  
Os gwel Maelgwn Gwynedd  
Fydd farw."

<sup>6</sup> A ninth, *Cil Meuddin*, is mentioned in Cathrall.

low the boundary stones to the stream near *Eglwys Ros*; thence along the channel to the junction of the rivulet that flows between *Bodysgallen* and *Brongoch*; thence to *Carregereu*, *Carregwalth*, between *Trefwarth* and *Callaurwerth*, and on to *Argavelin*, and hence up the channel of the river to *Conwy*."

A field in the township of Brynlan is still called "*Gardd y Monachdy*", and there is a tradition that a religious house was once there. If so, it may have been the original British foundation afterwards transferred by Llewelyn to Aberconwy in 1185, and refounded there as a Cistercian abbey; and again, by Edward I, transplanted to Aberllechog, or Maenan, in 1284. The township of *Pen Cilas* indicates that it, at all events, was once church land ("*terra ecclesiastica*").

The *Taxatio* (1291) makes no mention of the appropriation of the tithes to the abbey, which we may therefore conclude to have been made subsequently. Its record runs: "*Eccl'ia de Eglwys Ros taxat' £7; dec., 14s.*" But in the *Valor* of Henry VIII, in 1535, the appropriation is noted, and the value given, under the "*Monaster' sive Abb'ia de Conwy*", as £18. At the Dissolution these tithes passed into lay hands, and in 1623 Lewis Owen, Esq., of Bodsilin, Serjeant at Law, bequeathed them for the endowment of six almshouses at Penmynydd in Anglesey; with the exception of those of Gloddaeth, which, together with the rectorial tithes of Conway, he left in trust for the clothing of poor persons in the several parishes of Conway, Eglerose, Llangwstenyn, and Llandidno. He also left a bequest of twelve pence a week, for bread, to each of the parishes of "*Egleerosse and Llynsteninge*," charged upon his lands therein.<sup>1</sup> These lands in Gloddaeth and Bodysgallen were subsequently purchased by the Mostyns, who also became impropiators of the tithes, and now pay thereout £63 per annum to the almshouses at Penmynydd, and one-eighth of the Conway tithes to the poor of each of the four parishes of Conwy, Eglwys Rhos, Llandudno, and Llangwstenyn. Their commuted value is £489 19s. The vicar's stipend arises from the following sources:

1. Two-fifths of rent of " <i>Rowlin Farm in Caerhun</i> " <sup>2</sup>	£16 14 8
2. Rent of tenement in Llandrillo	9 0 0
3. Queen Anne's Bounty (per Parliamentary Grant of £1,200 in 1823)	40 14 8
4. Interest of £200, Queen Anne's Bounty Grant, 1787	6 10 0
5. Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1844	20 0 0
6. Ditto, to meet a benefaction of £1,000, <sup>3</sup> 1844	67 0 0
7. Charge on impropriation by Lewis Owen, 1623 <sup>4</sup>	7 0 0
	<hr/> £166 19 4

<sup>1</sup> Williams' *History of Aberconwy*, p. 197.

<sup>2</sup> Bought with Queen Anne's Bounty from trustees of D. of Ancaster, 1783.

<sup>3</sup> A Friend, per Bishop of St. Asaph, £600; Lady Champneys, £200; Miss Mostyn, £200.

<sup>4</sup> This was "for twelve sermons yearly; but if the curate be unable to



The church, dedicated originally after S. Eleri or Hilary, the founder of many other churches in Rhos (such as Gwytherin, Denbigh, and Pennant in Eglwysfach), was rebuilt by the monks of Aberconwy, and dedicated in the name of the Virgin, and again restored in the year 1865.<sup>1</sup> Its plan is cruciform, the transepts forming respectively the Penrhyn Chapel on the north, and that of Gloddaeth on the south.<sup>2</sup> The oldest portion of the fabric is indicated by the two-light ogee Decorated window of the north transept; the other windows, previous to the late restoration, having been of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The chancel and aisles are floored with encaustic tiles; and there is also an effective reredos of tiles, having the "Agnus Dei" between the sacred monograms. The pulpit is of oak, arcaded and panelled, and the roof and seats are of the same material. The old font, which had been broken and disused, and replaced by another given by Miss Frances Mostyn, was a few years ago repaired by the late Lord Dungannon, and has been restored to its original use. The chancel window, of three lights, is memorial to the Hon. T. E. M. Lloyd-Mostyn, erected by his widow in 1865, and represents the Resurrection. Another, on the south side, representing Faith, Hope, and Charity, is to Mary Bridget Mostyn of Bodysgallen, 1853, by whom it was given. That of the south transept, or Gloddaeth Chapel, contains some beautiful medallions of old glass; *e. g.*, the "Gloria in Excelsis," the Adoration, the Transfiguration, the Crucifixion, and the Instruments of the Passion. In this chapel is a mural monument to many members of the Mostyn family. Pennant mentions as existing in his day, in the chancel window, "the figure of a man in a herald's mantle, with the arms of Englefield beneath," and conjectures it to have been that of Howel ap Tudur of Mostyn, the donor of the window. Williams, however, reads the inscription, "Hoo!t Armigeri qui hec".....; other words on it were, "Fili Dei Jesu miserere mei"; and adds that these fragments were carefully preserved, and placed in the new window given by Miss F. Mostyn.

In the churchyard a tombstone to the memory of "Robertus Pue de Penrhyn," ob. 1659, bears this hexameter,—

"Nostra sub hoc sculpto pars est vilissima saxo;  
Mens sua fert cœlum jure, cadaver humum."<sup>3</sup>

---

preach them, only three pounds to him, and the other four to some one who can." This was, doubtless, the ground of an arrangement which formerly prevailed, for the vicar of Llandrillo to preach four sermons annually in this church, for which he received £2 from the impropiator; but the custom grew, to omit the sermons, and pay £1 to the incumbent instead.

<sup>1</sup> The outlay was about £600.

<sup>2</sup> The terrier of 1791 states that "the parishioners are charged with the repairs of the north side of the church and the fence of the churchyard; Sir Roger Mostyn, Bart., with those of the south side and south aisle; and the proprietor of Penrhyn with those of the north aisle and chancel."

<sup>3</sup> *Anglicæ*, "Our basest part is under this carved stone:

Its soul hath heaven by right, earth flesh and bone."



At Penrhyn there was a Free Chapel, endowed by a grant of Pope Nicholas with three-fourths of the tithe of the township; and mentioned in the *Valor* of 1535 as "*Libera Capella Beatæ Mariæ de Penryn valet clare 20s.; inde pro xma parte regi, 2s.*" The family continued to profess the Roman Catholic faith, and to support a priest as domestic chaplain, for a long period after the Reformation. The tithes are now vested in the estate, and the chapel has long since been desecrated into a stable.<sup>1</sup>

The School, which was opened in 1822, was founded by Miss Frances Mostyn of Bodysgallen, who left £2,100, at £3¼ per cent., in trust for the free education of forty boys and forty girls; the master to receive £20, the mistress £10; and the religious instruction to be in accordance with the Articles of the Church of England. The site is held on a lease of ninety-nine years from 1822.

One of the earliest parochial lending libraries was established here by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, as may be gathered from the following "Memorandum, that I received the parochial library of Eglwys Rhos the 26th day of December anno Domini 1712. Ellis Ellis, Cler., Minister of Eglwys Rhos and Llandudno."

The charities embrace,—1623, a share with Conway, Llandudno, and Eglwys Rhos, in the rectorial tithes of Conwy and Gloddaeth, in accordance with the will of Mr. Lewis Owen; and a weekly dole of bread, as at Llangystenin, charged on the lands of Gloddaeth, in accordance with the will of the same benefactor, amounting in all to £21.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES.

1683.—GRIFFITHS, John <sup>2</sup>	1783.—PUGH, Richard <sup>5</sup>
1712.—ELLIS, Ellis	1822.—WYNNE-EDWARDS, Thos., B.A. <sup>6</sup>
1728.—ELLIS, Evan	1828.—ALBAN, Thomas <sup>7</sup>
1750.—PRICE, Lewis, B.A. <sup>3</sup>	— JONES, Thomas
1754.—DAVIES, John, A.B.	1831.—HUGHES, J. E. <sup>8</sup>
1770.—EDWARDS, Edward <sup>4</sup>	

1846.—DAVIES, John, M.A., Trinity College, Dublin; Deac., 1836; Pr., 1846; Curate of Pontbleiddyn, 1836; P. C. Brymbro, 1840.

<sup>1</sup> Williams' *History of Aberconwy*, p. 123, where see some curious and interesting details about the family and place.

<sup>2</sup> R. Llanelian, 1683; V. Llangernyw, 1689.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llysfaen.

<sup>4</sup> P. C. Llangystenin; R. Llanrwst, 1783.

<sup>5</sup> P. C. Llangystenin.

<sup>6</sup> V. Rhuddlan and V. Choral, 1828.

<sup>7</sup> V. Llandrillo in Rhos, 1816; R. Llanelian, 1831.

<sup>8</sup> P. C. Llangystenin.

GWYTHERIN.<sup>1</sup>

THIS is a wild and mountainous parish, of 3,559 acres, divided into the two townships of Uwehllan and Islan, and rated at £1,609, with a population of 388.

It is a place of very early ecclesiastical note, and famous, from remote antiquity, for its *collegium* of holy men and women; for the British clergy, having never admitted the law of celibacy, used to live together in a collection of the primitive dwellings of the period, where they joined together in prayer and meditation, and from whence they evangelised and civilised the surrounding district. Here St. Cybi and St. Sannan are said to have rested from their labours; and hither St. Winifred, after her expulsion from Holywell, was directed by St. Sadwrn to seek a final retreat with St. Eleri or Hilary.<sup>2</sup> When monasticism supplanted the earlier system, the great reputation of St. Winifred, and the possession of her tomb, secured for this place the establishment of a nunnery, the site of which is still pointed out in a small field near the church, called "Penbryn Capel."<sup>3</sup> When, however, Robert of Shrewsbury, in the reign of King Stephen, succeeded in obtaining possession of her body, and translating it to the Abbey of St. Peter and St. Paul in Shrewsbury,<sup>4</sup> which thereupon increased greatly in wealth and celebrity, Gwytherin itself waned and lost its reputation, for we meet with no account of the subsequent existence of the religious house.

The *Taxatio* of 1291 simply records, "Eccl'ia de Gwytherin tax'

<sup>1</sup> "Gwytherin was the son of Dingad ap Nudd Hael, a saint who flourished in the sixth century," according to *Eminent Welshmen*; but the name of a hill close by the village, "Bryn Eirin," suggests a more natural and descriptive derivation, from the "Gwydd Eirin" or *berry bushes* which seem at one time to have characterised the spot.

<sup>2</sup> The course St. Winifred was directed to follow, from Bodfari through Henllan, may supply a clue to the long lost line of the old Roman road from the former place to Caerbûn.

<sup>3</sup> Three yew trees on a spot about a mile from the village are said to mark the site of an old monastery. If so, it was probably the old *collegium*.

<sup>4</sup> Pennant's account of this transaction, taken from the *Life of St. Winifred* (pp. 88 seq.), runs as follows: "By reason of a miracle wrought, as was supposed, by her intercession, on a monk of Shrewsbury, the abbot determined on the translation of her remains to their monastery. Seven holy men were deputed. The inhabitants of Gwytherin refused to part with such a treasure. Visions determined the former to persist in their request; and at length, on the declaration of the will of heaven by another vision to the parson of Gwytherin, who declared to his flock the impiety of further resistance, the reliques were delivered up, and carried in triumph to their place of destination."—*Tours in Wales*, ii, p. 180.

£4:1:8; dec., 8s. 2d.”; and the *Valor* of Henry VIII has, “*Rectoria valet clare, £6:5:8; dec. regi, 12s. 7d.*” That this church was originally the head of a wider ecclesiastical district, in strict accordance with what has already been said of the primitive *collegium*, is corroborated by the circumstance that no payment was made, on the one hand, from hence to the Archdeacon as vicar of Abergele (the mother church of a wide, adjoining region), and on the other, that £7 per annum, representing one-third of the tithes of Beidiog township, in Llansannan, are still received by it. The tithes of the parish itself were commuted at £163 to the rector, and £5 to the parish clerk. There were also twenty acres of glebe land attached to the living, to which nine more were added in 1866 by transfer from Llanfair Talhaiarn. The house was erected in 1814. Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The original church would appear, from the tradition embodied in the direction to St. Winifred, to have been founded by St. Elerius, Eleri, or Hilary. When rebuilt, at some early period, it was dedicated to St. James. Within a few yards of it, on the south side, and within the churchyard, stood the Chapel of St. Winifred till about the middle of the last century, when it probably fell into ruins. The church itself also became so dilapidated that it was pulled down in 1867. The following description of it and its characteristic features was written in 1858:

“The church is small, and destitute of architectural interest, having a small west end bell-gable, and a double light lancet-window at the east end. Within the church are preserved two old rude wooden chests, in one of which a piece of wood is shown as being a portion of the coffin of St. Winifred. The font is plain and octagonal. The yew trees in the churchyard are the largest and finest I have ever seen. In the churchyard, at the north side of the church, are erected four upright stones about two feet high. They are placed in a row; and on the eastern side of the most westernly of them is the inscription, VINNEMAGLI FIL SENEMAGLI (*i. e.*, the body or tombstone of Vin-nemaglus, the son of Senemaglus). The letters are slightly debased, tall Roman capitals; the M and A in both lines conjoined, and the G partaking of a minuscule form, without the straight bar at top, common in some of the Welsh inscriptions. The whole exhibit a Romano-British inscription probably of the sixth century.”<sup>1</sup>

One can hardly help recognising here some of the names that occur in the legend; possibly they may have suggested some of the details, *e. g.*, *Wini-fred*, *Sennan*; and in the one case, *Mael*, or perhaps *Nudd Hael*, the father of Gwytherin. On the other hand, it in part looked like CILI, for Cybi. A small hand Mass-bell, such as in early times

<sup>1</sup> Professor J. O. Westwood, M.A., Oxford, in *Arch. Cambrensis*, Oct. 1858, where an illustration is also given of it. It is also engraved in Gibson and Gough's *Camden*, Plate XIX, fig. 18; but the inscription is not so correctly given.



was common in Ireland, and not uncommon in Wales, is also shown here.

The celebration of the annual wake or vigil on the 3rd of November, the day of St. Winifred's translation to Shrewsbury, shows that she, a saint of the early British Church, still retained her hold on the reverence of the people, though her body had been carried away to promote the interests of a Romish abbey; and it has once more been honoured by giving a dedication to the new church, which was consecrated on June 3rd, 1869. It follows the plan of the old one, having no external mark to distinguish the nave from the chancel. It will accommodate one hundred and forty worshippers, and cost £750. Architects, Lloyd-Williams and Underwood. The altar-cloth was presented by Mrs. Sandbach, alms-dish and altar-lights by Miss Ffoulkes of Eriviat, and the linen and paten by Mrs. Evans of Prestatyn Hall, from proceeds of sale of photographs of the old church.

In taking down the old church, two floriated crosses were discovered near the altar,—one bearing a sword, memorial to an armiger or knight; the other a chalice, indicating a priest's grave. Both of them, however, are described in Pennant; and the former is said to have originally belonged to the chapel, and the latter to have borne the legend, "Hic jacet Lowarch Mab Cadell."

The charities are:

1. Rent-charge of £1 on Caerllwyn, by Anne LLOYD of Plas Madoc.
2. " " 6s. on Bryntan, by Alice LLOYD.
3. A sum of £57<sup>1</sup> invested with the Charity Commissioners.

#### RECTORS.

1537.—LLOYD, Robert	1660.—HUGHES, Richard
1579.—Robert ap Rolt <sup>2</sup>	1675.—MAURICE, David, D.D. <sup>5</sup>
——— LLOYD, Robert <sup>2</sup>	1684.—EDWARDS, Richard <sup>6</sup>
1582.—VAUGHAN, William, B.D. <sup>3</sup>	1727.—MEYRICK, William <sup>7</sup>
1602.—VAUGHAN, Owen <sup>4</sup>	1738.—LLOYD, David, B.A. <sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Benefactions of £15 by William John Pierce, £10 by Edw. John Ablem, £7 by Unknown, £6 by Lowry Ach Thomas, and five donors of £5 each. £6 of the above, and a benefaction of £10 by Henry Davies, 1782, have been lost.

<sup>2</sup> B. Willis supposes Robert ap Rolt to have quitted it the same year, and Lloyd to have had it again.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llanarmon yn Ial, 1567; S. R. Llanrhaidr, 1574; S. R. Llangwm, 1593; R. Cerrig y Drudion, 1587; Preb. Meifod, 1596; Preb. Llanefydd, 1598.

<sup>4</sup> V. Llandrillo yn Edeirnion, 1595; S. R. Llangwm and Llansannan, 1598; chaplain to Bishop Morgan at Llandaff.

<sup>5</sup> V. Abergele and Bettws, 1681; Preb. Faenol, 1691; R. Llanarmon, 1695.

<sup>6</sup> R. Caerwys, 1702.

<sup>7</sup> R. Llansantffraid Glan Conway.

<sup>8</sup> R. Llanddoget, 1720; Canon, 1748; R. Llanycil and V. Llanyblodwel, 1753; R. Cerrig y Drudion, 1760.



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| 1753.—LEWIS, Ambrose Thelwall,<br>M.A. <sup>1</sup> | 1782.—JONES, Edward<br>1812.—ROWLANDS, Lewis |
| 1779.—JONES, Joseph                                 | 1843.—JENKINS, John                          |

1865.—DAVIES, David, St. Bees ; Deacon, 1861; Pr., 1862; C. Llan-sannan, 1861; Rhyl, 1862; Tremeirchion, 1865.

### LLANDDOGET.

THIS is a very small parish with a cultivated area of only 693 acres, of the rateable value of £1,145, and with a population of 246.

In the *Taxatio*, "Eccl'ia de Landoget" is returned at £4; "non decimatur"; and in the *Valor* at £5 : 9 : 6; dec., 10s. 11½d. The present value, by commutation, is £178. The rectory house was built in 1812, and there are fourteen acres of glebe, a portion of which was purchased, about 1781, with a grant of £200 from Queen Anne's Bounty; and another portion, about forty years ago, with another grant made in 1794; and a benefaction of £40 by the rector, to complete the purchase. Patron, the Bishop.

There were formerly two wakes or festivals observed here: the first on the twenty-fourth day before the 1st of May, to "St. Doged," son of Cedig ap Ceredig ap Cunedda; but according to others, to "Doeg," the third son of Maelgwn Gwynedd; and the other, twenty-four days before the 1st of August, to St. Mary Magdalen, to whom also Cerrig y Drudion is dedicated. That there may have been some connexion between the two claimants to the original foundation seems to be implied by one of the earliest records in *Llyfr C6ch*, where one *Cedig* is represented as having struck with a drinking-horn a son of King Maelgwn Gwynedd, and as flying for sanctuary to holy Kentigern at Llanelwy, whither he is also pursued by Maelgwn; who, however, ends by confirming the holy man's privileges, enriching him with further grants, and extending the limits of his see from *Glatir* (*hodie* Greenfield), near Basingwerk, to Conway. The witnesses are,—St. Daniel, Bishop of Bangor, patron; Saints *Trillo* and *Grwst*; Rhun, the King's son; and *Gwrgenan*, his steward,—names closely connected with the neighbourhood; and, whatever we may think of the genuineness of the document, sufficiently indicative of the opinion there recorded, in 1256, as long ago a historical fact. In the last name we may, perhaps, also identify the title of one of the two townships into which the parish was anciently divided, viz., "Esgrogemian," probably Esgair-Gwrgenan; whence the parish itself has been written "Llandogett, *alias* Doeg, *alias* Esgrogemian."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> R. Llandegla, 1751; R. Cerrig y Drudion, 1778; Canon, 1779.

<sup>2</sup> MS. Z. It appears under this name in an early document of the time of Edward I, in *Llyfr C6ch*.

The church, which was rebuilt in 1839, is in the form of two equal aisles divided by six wooden pillars and pointed arches, the northern one being used as nave and chancel. The pulpit and desks, in three tiers, stand against the north wall. The font (octangular, upon three plinth stones) stands under the fourth arch. The pews are square, except the raised choir-seats at the west end; and two divisions are screened off at the western corners for the purposes of vestry, etc. Over the pulpit-seat is a half-length painting of "Our Lord teaching" ("Esay Pen. lv."), and there are a few texts on the walls. There are two porches; and externally the walls are covered with well clipped ivy. Some fine yew trees, of considerable age, stand in the churchyard. The Registers begin with the Kyffins, ann. 1600 and 1679.

The School was built in 1827, at a cost of £164.

An old record<sup>1</sup> mentions that "Thomas Kyffin of Maenan, Esq., lately gave 20s. a year to the parish for teaching five poor children in the Welsh language"; and the Charity Report of 1837 notices a sum of 3s. 6*d.* per ann., on account of a bequest of one David; but neither of them is now in existence.

## RECTORS.

—	Bleddyn ap Einion ap Adda	1662.—JONES, Richard
1319.—	Iorwerth ap Bleddyn Sais <sup>2</sup>	1686.—KYFFIN, George <sup>8</sup>
1534.—	David ap Owen <sup>3</sup>	1702.—EVANS, Thomas
1537.—	VAUGHAN, Lewis	1709.—LLOYD, Griffith <sup>9</sup>
1540.—	THOMAS, Lewis	1720.—LLOYD, David, B.A.
1551.—	POWEL, John <sup>4</sup>	1735.—LLOYD, Thomas
1556.—	OWEN, David	1740.—HUGHES, David, B.A.
1558.—	RICHARD, Ellis	1767.—PUGH, Richard
1590.—	KYFFIN, Ellis	1783.—HUGHES, Lewis, B.D.
1604.—	DAVIES, John	1785.—HUGHES, David, M.A. <sup>10</sup>
1605.—	HUGHES, J.	1789.—DAVIES, Thomas <sup>11</sup>
1606.—	BERKELEY, John <sup>5</sup>	1798.—HUGHES, Thomas
1611.—	BARKER, Thomas <sup>6</sup>	1809.—KYFFIN, Robert <sup>12</sup>
1618.—	THOMAS, Edward	1817.—JONES, David
1628.—	HAMPTON, Roger <sup>7</sup>	1825.—DAVIES, Thomas, M.A.

1873.—JONES, Thomas, St. Bees; Deac., 1867; Pr., 1868; Curate of Llanrhaiadr and Llanarmon M. M., 1867-73.

<sup>1</sup> Bishop Drummond's Book.

<sup>2</sup> *Llyfr Côch*, 85 b.

<sup>3</sup> V. Eglwysfach.

<sup>4</sup> Canon, 1552.

<sup>5</sup> V. Llansannan, 1611; R. Newtown, 1613; R. Llanfyllin, 1614; Preb. of Llanfair, 1621; S. R. Llandysil, 1622. Head Master of Oswestry School.

<sup>6</sup> V. Choral, 1617; R. Denbigh, 1624.

<sup>7</sup> Deprived.

<sup>8</sup> V. Eglwysfach, 1702; V. Llandrillo yn Rhos, 1713.

<sup>9</sup> Master of Llanrwst School. <sup>10</sup> Principal of Jesus Coll., Oxford, 1802.

<sup>11</sup> Collated to Llangar Rectory the same year.

<sup>12</sup> Built the Rectory House.

## LLANDRILLO YN RHOS.

THIS parish, anciently called "Dinerth,"<sup>1</sup> consists of the townships of Llwydcoed, Mochdre, Dinerth, Rhiw, Cilgwyn, and Colwyn, in Denbighshire, with Eirias in Carnarvonshire;<sup>2</sup> embracing a total area of 4,571 a. 3 r. 15 p.; rated, exclusive of Eirias, at £9,715;<sup>3</sup> with a population of 1,500. Ecclesiastically, however, there have been assigned to the new district of Colwyn the townships of Eirias, Colwyn, and a portion of Cilgwyn; reducing the area attached to the mother church to 3,199 acres, and its population to 900, for whom further provision has now been made by the erection of a Mission Chapel at Colwyn Bay.

In early times this was the mother church of an extensive district, embracing the parishes, or at least considerable portions, of Llansantffraid, Llanelian, and Llysfaen, and probably also of Eglwys Rhos, as witnessed by the rights which the rector and vicar possessed in those parishes, and confirmed by the testimony of ancient terriers.

The *Taxatio* of 1291, under "Eccl'ia de Dynernth," returns the rectory as worth £15:6:8, and the vicarage £8:6:8, with their respective tenths as £1:10:8 and 16s. 8d.; and the *Valor* of 1535 gives the "Rectoria de Dev'gh" as of the net value of £27:1:3; minus tenths payable to the King, £2:14:1¼; and the "Vicaria" as £8:15:10, minus 17s. 10d. From later records we find that, in addition to the rectorial tithes of this parish, the rector had also half those of Trebwill, Deunant, and Penyrhos, in Llansantffraid; of Twnan in Llanelian, and of Penmaen in Llysfaen; and that in all these cases the vicar also had a third of the other moiety; but they were bound, in return, to preach a certain number of sermons in those churches. In lieu of these sermons it became the custom for the rector to make a money payment to the vicar as his substitute, and for the vicar to pay twenty shillings a year to each of the three incumbents. At the time the same arrangement was in force with respect to Eglwys Rhos; but was discontinued, owing to a dispute, in the last century. Another source of income was the fish taken on every tenth tide at the Rhos Fynach Weir, in the proportion of three-fourths to the rector, and one-fourth to the vicar.<sup>4</sup> In consideration of this the owner of the

<sup>1</sup> Probably "Din-garth," *i. e.*, the fort with earthworks.

<sup>2</sup> Eirias, which makes its own rates, has an area of 829 a. 2 r., was in 1870 rated at £1,549; now, £2,485; and a population of 295.

<sup>3</sup> To which it was raised, in 1871, from £3,989, by the energy of the vicar in getting the Railway Company fully rated (raised from £125 per mile to £950), whereby the rates of the parish were lowered from 5s. 1d. in the pound in 1870 to 2s. 3d. in 1872.

<sup>4</sup> This belonged originally to the monks of Aberconway, and was granted by the Earl of Leicester, as Lord of Denbigh, in 1577 to Morgan ap John ap David of Maesegwig, ancestor of the present proprietor. In two successive tides as much as £40 worth of mackerel have been taken here.



weir "insisted upon an immemorial custom of having prayers read at the Weir three times during the fishing season, as it was customary upon all sea-coasts, in these parts, where tithes of fish were paid.<sup>1</sup> The rectorial tithes, which have been held by the Bishops of St. Asaph *in commendam* from the year 1759, have been commuted at £640; out of which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have assigned £395:17:3 for the endowment of Colwyn, and have added £125:3:3 to those of the vicar, which were commuted at £310, in lieu of tithes surrendered by him to the respective incumbents, viz., £35:12:6½ to Llanellian, £77:6:3½ to Llanantffraid, and £14:10:1½ to Llysfaen. He has also a house and two acres and a half of glebe. The parish clerk has also a tithe rent-charge of £4. Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The church, St. Trillo (June 16), is believed to have been built originally in that part of Dinarth township which disappeared in the submergence of Morfa Rhianedd,—a large district that once stretched from the Great Orme's Head to beyond Abergele, and thence transferred to the present site, where Ednyfed Fychan of Bryneuryn, a famous general and minister of Llewelyn the Great, had already "built a chapel, and had licence of the Pope for evermore to sing divine service therein for his soul, and his ancestors' and progenitors' souls always; and had authority to give his tithes and oblations to his chaplain there serving." This chapel is said to have formed the western half of the present north aisle, and to have been on that occasion extended to its present length; but it is more likely to have stood on the north side of the aisle, where now stand two blank pointed arches which formerly, no doubt, connected the chapel with the new church, and were most likely closed up when the Ladies Conwy, the last occupants of Ednyfed Fychan's palace at Bryneuryn, built the south aisle. The same ladies left a large sum of money for the erection of the tower which superseded the previous cupola at the west end of the north aisle, and possesses some peculiar features, such as loop-lights with ogee heads, a watch-place at the top of its stair, and battlements stepped in the Irish fashion, as at Llanbeblig, and nowhere else in North Wales. The two aisles are separated by four arches of the late Perpendicular period; and the carved stone angel-corbels at their spring indicate that they were intended for a roof much more elaborate than the present plain one of oak. That of the north aisle is of a "plan rarely found in the churches of this date, but much adopted in the present day. The main beams of the principals have a tie-beam at more than half their altitude; and athwart this beam two springers, or subsidiary beams, starting half way down between the tie-beam and the top of the wall, run up, cross each other above the tie-beam, and then fasten themselves into the principals. A series of three quadrilaterals above three triangles is thus formed, all strongly pegged together; light in appearance, and sufficiently rigid to have stood, perhaps, for three centuries."<sup>2</sup> The two east

<sup>1</sup> G. 173.

<sup>2</sup> Arch. Camb., 1857, p. 40.

windows are (one of four, the other of three lights) Perpendicular, and similar in design to those of Whitchurch and many others of the same period. That of the chancel<sup>1</sup> and another on the south side are about to be filled with stained glass; the latter in memory of the late vicar, and illustrative of the Resurrection. The font is an octagonal basin of early English date, and has a beading of the tooth ornament around the rim. There is a piscina in the south chancel, an ambry in the east wall of the north aisle, and two recesses for sepulchral effigies in the north wall. The church, after having been restored under the supervision of Mr. Kennedy, was reopened on the 3rd of September, 1857, and is seated for three hundred and fifty. The chalice was given by Thomas Edwards in 1608, and the lych-gate is dated 1688.

A new Mission Chapel has lately been erected at the rising bathing place of Colwyn Bay, on a site given by Sir Thomas Erskine, from the plans of Mr. Douglas of Chester, at a cost of £180. It is built of bricks and timber, slated with red tiles, and seated with chairs for two hundred and twenty worshippers. The first sod was cut, May 21, and the building was opened for service on Tuesday, the 18th of June, 1872, exactly one month after.

The interesting old Oratory on the shore, known as "Capel Trillo," which has already been described,<sup>2</sup> is an example still surviving of some of the earliest religious edifices of the country, and corresponds to the primitive oratories of Ireland and Cornwall.

The National School was erected in 1819, at a cost of £220.

The charities consist of

1. Farm called "Tyn Terfyn," anciently "Ty'n y Pwll," about eight acres (donor unknown), for the poor, per ann., £8.
2. Talybont, ditto, £1 1s.
3. Elizabeth EDWARDS, in 1727, left interest of £10 for the poor, and ditto of £20 for schooling or apprenticing. These sums, with accumulation, now yield per ann. £2 11s.
4. Rent-charge on Glanywern Farm, £1 1s.

#### SINECURE RECTORS.

1537.—PRICE, Elis, LL.D. <sup>3</sup>	1602.—ROBERTS, John <sup>6</sup>
1561.—ELLIS, Dr. <sup>4</sup>	1609.—BALGE, John, B.D.
1592.—RICHARD, Edward <sup>5</sup>	1633.—HARRISON, Thomas, B.D.
1594.—HUGHES, Bp. <i>in commendam</i>	1635.—LUFTON, J., LL.B. <sup>7</sup>
	1647.—BALDWIN, Timothy, LL.D. <sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The gift of Mr. Edward Brooke, Caen Towers, Highgate, Sheriff of Middlesex.

<sup>2</sup> P. 9, *suprà*.

<sup>3</sup> "Y Doctor Côch." S. R. Llangwm and R. Llanuwchllyn.

<sup>4</sup> "Residens, nondum sacris ordinibus initiatus." (B. W., ii, p. 142.)

<sup>5</sup> Upon the Queen's presentation.

<sup>6</sup> V. Corwen, 1571; R. Cerrigydrudion, 1581; R. Erbistock, 1585.

<sup>7</sup> R. Ibstock in Leicestershire, of which he was deprived by the Puritans.

<sup>8</sup> Fellow of All Souls' College, 1640; Principal of Hart Hall, 1660; Chancellor of the dioceses of Hereford and Worcester.

- 1660.—CRESSETT, James, A.M.<sup>1</sup> 1727.—TENNISON, Thos., LL.D.<sup>4</sup>  
 1684.—MAURICE, Henry, D.D.<sup>2</sup> 1742.—HAY, William, A.M.<sup>5</sup>  
 1691.—WOOTTON, William, B.D.<sup>3</sup> 1759.—Bishop *in com.*<sup>6</sup>

## VICARS.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1537.—ELLIS, Thomas <sup>7</sup>            | — HUMPHREYS, John*                         |
| 1542.—RICHARD, Elis                         | 1713.—KYFFIN, George <sup>10</sup>         |
| 1579.—ROBERTS, Roderick                     | 1718.—LLOYD, Thomas <sup>11</sup>          |
| 1594.—HOOKS, Richard                        | 1726.—GWYNN, John <sup>12</sup>            |
| 1610.—PRICHARD, Griffith, A.M. <sup>8</sup> | 1753.—CHARLES, Isaac, B.A.                 |
| 1632.—OWENS, Ellis                          | 1763.—MYDDELTON, Robt., M.A. <sup>13</sup> |
| 1634.—LLOYD, William                        | 1772.—ELLIS, Evan, B.A. <sup>14</sup>      |
| 1666.—FFOULKES, Robert <sup>9</sup>         | 1816.—ALBAN, Thomas <sup>15</sup>          |
| 1693.—EVANS, Griffith*                      | 1835.—PARRY, Thomas <sup>16</sup>          |
| 1695.—STODART, John*                        | 1855.—HUGHES, Thomas <sup>17</sup>         |

1869.—WILLIAMS, William Venables, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford ; Deacon, 1852 ; Priest, 1853 ; Curate of Rhuabon, 1853-9 ; P. C. Llangedwyn, 1859-69.

## COLWYN.

THIS district, originally assigned in 1844, and rearranged in 1872, consists of the townships of Colwyn, Eirias, and a portion of Cilgwyn out of Llandrillo, a portion of Llanellian and the hamlet of Graig out of the parish of Llysfaen ; with a population of 900.

<sup>1</sup> R. Condover in Shropshire.

<sup>2</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford ; chaplain to Sir Leoline Jenkins, and then to Archbishop Sancroft ; R. Newington ; Prebendary of Chichester ; and in 1691 Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity at Oxford. Author of *Doubts concerning the Roman Infallibility*, and a *Defence of Diocesan Episcopacy*.

<sup>3</sup> R. Middleton Keynes, 1693. Author of *Reflections upon Ancient and Modern Learning*, 1694 ; *Memoirs of the Cathedral Churches of St. David and Llandaff*, published by Browne Willis ; and an edition of *Hoeli Leges Wallicæ*, Cyfreithiau Hywel Dda, in which he was assisted by Moses Williams.

<sup>4</sup> By an option of the Archbishop, on Bishop Hare's consecration.

<sup>5</sup> Fellow of St. John's College, Oxford.

<sup>6</sup> Taken in lieu of Llanarmon yn Iâl.

<sup>7</sup> R. Penegoes and V. Chirk.

<sup>8</sup> R. Llanddulas, 1601.

<sup>9</sup> V. Choral, 1665.

\* Each of these was involved in Bishop Jones' simoniacal practices.

<sup>10</sup> R. Llanddoget, 1686 ; V. Eglwysfach, 1702.

<sup>11</sup> V. Llansannan, 1726.

<sup>12</sup> R. Llansantffraid, G. Conway, 1708.

<sup>13</sup> R. St. George, 1757 ; R. Denbigh, 1772.

<sup>14</sup> V. Cilcain, 1762.

<sup>15</sup> R. Snead, diocese of Hereford, 1801 ; R. Llanellian, 1831.

<sup>16</sup> R. Llanddulas, 1811 ; R. Llysfaen, 1823.

<sup>17</sup> P. C. Colwyn, 1844-55.



The Ecclesiastical Commissioners have also assigned to it (1872), out of the rectorial tithes of Llandrillo, a tithe rent-charge of £395:17:3 in lieu of their previous payments.<sup>1</sup> A glebe house<sup>2</sup> has also been built this year on a site given by Mr. Oldham Whittaker, late of Minydon. It is in the gift of the vicar of Llandrillo.

The church of St. Catharine was built in 1837 as a chapel of ease to Llandrillo, and so continued till gazetted with a district of its own in 1844. It was erected through the instrumentality of Richard Butler Clough of Minydon (ob. 1844), to whose memory, as its "projector and chief promoter," the east window has been filled<sup>3</sup> with memorial glass illustrative of the Agony, Crucifixion, and Ascension of Our Lord. A rearrangement of the seats and other alterations were effected in 1871, including a new pulpit, desk, lectern, credence, sedilia, and altar-rails.<sup>4</sup> An organ, by Hill of London, has also been set up at the west end (1872). The font, of wrought limestone, has trefoiled panels. A tower stands at the west end, the basement forming a vestry. The entrance is through a north porch.

A National School, with house, was erected near the church in 1848; but it has been superseded by another at a little farther distance.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES AND VICARS.

1844.—HUGHES, Thomas, Lampeter; V. Llandrillo, 1855.

1855.—LEWIS, Evan, B.D., Lampeter; V. Llanfair Talhaiarn, 1866.

1866.—JONES, John David, Lampeter; Deac. and Pr., 1857; Curate of Festiniog, 1857; Bala, 1858; Nannerch, 1860; Rhyl, 1864.

#### LLANFIHANGEL GLYN MYFYR.

ST. MICHAEL'S, in the Vale of Myfyr, or "contemplation" (or, as it is sometimes written, "Llyn Myfyr," from a lake of that name which is believed to have once existed in the valley), is a mountain parish divided into four townships, one of which, Cefn Post, is in Merionethshire; and the other three, Maes yr Odyn Llysan, and Cysilog, (Llysyllog), in Denbighshire. The area subject to tithes is 3,759 acres, rated at £1,973, and the population 481.

In the *Taxatio* of 1291, under "Decanatus de Dynmael, Eccl'ia de

<sup>1</sup> *E. g.*, a tithe rent-charge of £74, granted in April 1844; and a second, of £37:6:5, in 1855.

<sup>2</sup> Towards this a sum of £500 previously granted, to augment the living, by Queen Anne's Bounty; and two sums of £200 each, to meet similar benefactions, have been applied.

<sup>3</sup> By Catherine, his widow. The glass by Clutterbuck.

<sup>4</sup> At an outlay of about £350.

Lanvihagel taxat' £4 ; non decimat' ;" and in the *Valor* of 1535, under that of "Ros, Rectoria de Llanviangell valet £6 12s.; dec., 13s. 2½d." The commuted value is £200, and £1 on the glebe, which was tithed on account of the non-residence of the rector. There is a house; and to the original glebe of 8 a. 17 p., an addition of 1 a. 3 r. 5 p. was made in 1856;<sup>1</sup> and there is an allotment of 3 a. 3 r. mountain enclosure. Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The church, St. Michael's, is long and narrow, having the west end divided off into an ante-church, and the chancel slightly broader than the nave, and of ruder masonry. The west end, with its bell-gable,<sup>2</sup> and the east window were rebuilt in 1853; open seats were at the same time set up; and a new font given by Bishop Short in lieu of the old one, a small basin of black slate inserted into the wall, and now preserved at the Palace. A gallery occupies the west end; and on the north side is an interesting memorial of "Blwyddyn y Lli Mawr," 1781, when a great flood swept into the church to a height of 8 feet 7 inches from the floor, and carried away a portion of the chancel.

The National School was erected in 1868, and opened in February 1869. Cost, £211. No master's house.

Mr. John Williams, of Denwydd, in 1735, left to the poor £20, which was invested in a cottage, afterwards burnt down; and the site is now all that remains of the charity.

Two customs survive here as interesting memorials of the past,—one, the collection by the parish clerk of "Blawd y glôch," or the bell-flour, being his payment in kind; as elsewhere the "Ysgub y glôch," or bell-sheaf, was for summoning the parishioners to church; and the other, the collection by the children, on the eve of All Saints, of "Bwyd Cennad y Meirw," or All Souls' Cakes.

"Tyddyn Tudur," in this parish, has been the birth-place of several distinguished members of a talented family. Here, in 1741, was born Owen Jones, the eminent antiquary, founder of the "Gwyneddion" Society in London, 1772; editor of *The Poems of Davydd ap Gwilym*, 1789; *Dyhewydd y Cristiom*; and the *Greal*, 1805; and joint editor, with Dr. Owen Pughe and Edward Williams (Iolo Morganwg) of the famous collection of early Welsh literature, published in London in three volumes (1801-7), under the title of the *Myvyrian Archaeology of Wales*, and republished in one volume (1870) by Mr. Gee of Denbigh. His son is the eminent decorative painter and illuminator of the same name. Here, too, were born Hugh Maurice, another learned antiquary and relative of Owen Jones, whom he greatly assisted in the compilation of the *Archæology*; and his son, Dr. Peter Maurice, of New College, Oxford, author of several books and pamphlets on *Popery* and *Music*.

<sup>1</sup> Bought for £84:14:9, of which Bishop Short and Rector Lewis each contributed one half.

<sup>2</sup> Date on bell, 1598.

## RECTORS.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1537.—VAUGHAN, J.                       | 1662.—FFOULKES, J.                       |
| ——— BLACKEN, J.                         | 1677.—WILLIAMS, Rice                     |
| 1551.—Lewis ap David <sup>1</sup>       | 1689.—WYNNE, David                       |
| 1573.—VAUGHAN, John <sup>2</sup>        | 1729.—HUGHES, William, B.A.              |
| 1574.—OWEN, Hugh <sup>3</sup>           | 1753.—DAVIES, David, B.A. <sup>6</sup>   |
| 1602.—POWELL, Thomas, A.M.              | 1760.—JONES, William, B.A. <sup>7</sup>  |
| 1606.—OWEN, Hugh                        | 1799.—ROWLAND, William <sup>8</sup>      |
| 1618.—PRICE, J., A.M. <sup>4</sup>      | 1800.—PRITCHARD, Robert <sup>9</sup>     |
| 1619.—FFOULKES, R.                      | 1847.—LEWIS, William, M.A. <sup>10</sup> |
| 1623.—KYFFIN, J.                        | 1866.—ROBERTS, Ellis <sup>11</sup>       |
| 1629.—FFOULKES, Rice, A.M. <sup>5</sup> |  |

1872.—EVANS, Evan, St. Bees ; Deac., 1859 ; Pr., 1860 ; Curate of Llanwrin, 1859 ; Llanycil, 1861 ; Ruthin, 1864 ; Llanrhaiadr yn Cimmeirch, 1867.

LLANGWM.<sup>12</sup>

THERE are in this parish eight townships, Trellan, Moelfra, Penyfed, Rhos Maenbrych, Disgarth, Llys Dinmael, Cefn Cymmer, and Stryd Elog, embracing an area of 10,578 a. 1 r. 31 p. ; of which 7,125 acres are cultivated, and of the rateable value of £4,680 ; having a population of 981.

In the foundation charter of Oswestry Hospital, drawn up by Bishop Reyner, A.D. 1210-1215, we find that one mark was charged upon Llangwm for its support.<sup>13</sup> Another notice records an agreement between one Howel ap Hofa, rector of this parish, and the Abbot of Strata Marcella, concerning certain lands at Esgyngaenog in Gwyddelwern.<sup>14</sup>

In the *Taxatio* of 1291, under “Decanatus de Dynmael,” we have

<sup>1</sup> V. Corwen, 1533.      <sup>2</sup> V. Llandrillo in Edeirnion, 1573 ; Canon, 1583.

<sup>3</sup> V. Choral, 1576, and V. Bettws yn Rhos, 1577 ; Canon, 1592.

<sup>4</sup> R. Llanmerewig, 1617.

<sup>5</sup> Elegy on Richard Ffoulkes in the Welsh Grammar of John Prydderch, p. 171.

<sup>6</sup> V. Gwyddelwern, 1745.      <sup>7</sup> R. Bettws, G.G., 1755-60 ; V. Llangwm, 1784.

<sup>8</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford ; R. Cerrigydrudion, 1800.

<sup>9</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford, and R. Rotherfield Peppard, Oxon.

<sup>10</sup> St. John's College, Cambridge.

<sup>11</sup> V. Llangwm, 1872.

<sup>12</sup> “The church of Cwm Dinmael.”

<sup>13</sup> “De Llangaenia marcam unam ; de Langum (unam) marcam ; de Llanwawr 10 solidos.”—Eyton's *Shropshire*.

<sup>14</sup> “Articuli conventionis inter P. Abbatem de Strata Marcella et Howel ap Hofa rectorem de Llangwm, pro firma quarundam terrarum apud Esgyn Gaenog, quas D'nus Gr. Ep's Bangor tenuit.”—*Llyfr C6ch*, 47a.



"Ecclesia de Llangwm, rectoria valet £5; dec., 10s.; vicaria, £2:13:4; non dec."; and in the *Valor* of 1535, "Rectoria, £11:4:7; dec., £1:2:5½. Vicaria, £5:14:9; dec., 11s. 5¾d." The Commutation in 1842 assigned £250 to the sinecure rector, and £152:19:6 to the vicar.<sup>1</sup> There were also 34 a. 3 r. of glebe, of which 22 a. 3 r. belonged to the rector; but were transferred by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, in 1859, to the vicar,<sup>2</sup> together with £110 8s. of the tithes; to which, in 1860, a further sum of £3:14:5 was added. The present augmented value of the vicarial tithes is £319 10s.

The glebe house was built in 1834. Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The church, dedicated (according to Rees) in the name of St. Jerome, was rebuilt in the year 1747; but whether on the same site, or not, is a matter of some uncertainty. There is a tradition that the earlier church was on the other side of the valley, in the field called "Erw Angharad," near the mill; but in the *Genealogy of the British Saints* it is stated that the *chapels* of Gwynog and his brother Noethon, near the church of Llangwm Dinmael, are now converted to a mill and a kiln.<sup>3</sup> The mill still exists, and is noticeable for a raised gable of the character of a bell-turret, which breaks the length of the roof; but whether this may be the original, or a copy of the original chapel roof, or whether it be the site of the earlier church or of the chapels above-mentioned, cannot now be determined.<sup>4</sup> The improbability, however, of so complete a removal of a parish church within so recent a period, and yet no records to attest it, as well as the age of some of the yew trees, argue in favour of the present site; to which the others were *capellæ*, as noted in the *Genealogy*.<sup>5</sup> The present building consists of a single body divided into chancel and nave by the "pren pymtheg," or floor-beam, of the ancient rood-screen, but otherwise possessing no features of architectural interest. Small fragments of diaper-glass, preserved in the chancel-window, correspond to similar ones in Bettws and Gwyddelwern. The font is a small modern basin of polished marble let into the wall, like those at Bettws and Cerrigydrudion; and each of these three churches claims to have been the original possessor of the octagonal one, now serving as a water-trough on the Holyhead road, near Pont y Glyn. There are monumental tablets to

<sup>1</sup> The sinecure rector had all the tithes except those of Trellan, which belonged to the vicar. There are moduses on Llwyndedwydd, Bodtegir, and Maesmawr demesne.

<sup>2</sup> A grant of £200 was made by Queen Anne's Bounty in 1734, to meet a similar benefaction in augmentation of the vicarage. Of this sum, £100 were given by Mr. John Wynne of Garthmeilio, and £20 by the Rev. Robert Wynne, ditto.

<sup>3</sup> *Cambrian Quarterly*, i, p. 31.

<sup>4</sup> "Eglwys Tynygraig" and "Yr Hen Fynwent" are hardly yet obsolete names.

<sup>5</sup> Two other ecclesiastical names of places in the parish are, Croesfaen, Llwyn y Saint; historical ones, Castell, Llys Dinmael, and Caer Dial.

many members of the family of Wynne of Garthmeilio, and one to General Kerr of Maesmawr.

The National School was erected in 1866.

The charities embrace :

1. Rent-charge of £3 per ann. on Ystrad Mawr, left by Ellis WYNNE, Esq., of Garthmeilio.
2. Ditto, £2 12s. on Garthmeilio estate, by John WYNNE, Esq.
3. Ditto, £1:13:3 on Glanavon, probably the gift of Hugh JONES, 1738.
4. Ditto, 12s. on Arddwyfaen, by David WILLIAMS, Esq., 1720.

#### SINECURE RECTORS.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1537.—CHESNALL, Humphrey                                  | 1598.—VAUGHAN, Owen <sup>6</sup>           |
| —— PRICE, Elis, LL.D. <sup>1</sup>                        | 1635.—GRIFFITH, Hugh, LL.D. <sup>7</sup>   |
| —— CANTERBURY or ORWELL,<br>Nicholas                      | 1668.—WESTON, Thomas, M.A.                 |
| 1540.—ATHERALL, William, B.D.                             | 1688.—DAVIES, William <sup>8</sup>         |
| 1547.—David ap Ievan ap Tudur<br>Llwyd, A.M. <sup>2</sup> | 1710.—POWELL, William, D.D. <sup>9</sup>   |
| 1560.—LLOYD, David  | 1751.—PRICE, John, D.D. <sup>10</sup>      |
| 1570.—Wynne, Rice <sup>3</sup>                            | 1772.—SHIPLEY, W. D., A.M. <sup>11</sup>   |
| 1582.—BANKS, Thomas, A.M. <sup>4</sup>                    | 1773.—WATSON, Richard, D.D. <sup>12</sup>  |
| 1584.—HUGHES, Bishop <i>in com.</i>                       | 1774.—WATSON, George                       |
| 1592.—RICHARDS, Edward, B.D.                              | 1783.—EVERARD, Charles, A.M. <sup>13</sup> |
| 1593.—VAUGHAN, William, D.D. <sup>5</sup>                 | 1792.—BAGOT, Bishop, <i>in com.</i>        |
|   | 1807.—HOLLAND, Samuel, D.D. <sup>14</sup>  |
|   | Lapsed, 1857                               |

#### VICARS.

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| —— David ap Gwilym                          | 1537.—DAVIES, Humphrey             |
| 1521.—Hugh ap David ap Eignon <sup>15</sup> | 1585.—DAVIES, Ffoulk <sup>16</sup> |

<sup>1</sup> S. R. Llandrillo yn Rhos, and R. Llanuwchllyn.

<sup>2</sup> R. Bettws, G. G. His pedigree is given by Gruff. Hiraethog, Hengwrt MSS. 256, folio 77.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanelian, 1556; Canon, 1560; R. Castle Caereinion, 1564.

<sup>4</sup> Dean of St. Asaph, 1587.

<sup>5</sup> Preb. Llannefydd, 1598.

<sup>6</sup> Chaplain to Bishop Morgan at Llandaff; V. Llandrillo in Edeirnion, 1595 98; S. R. Llansannan, 1598.

<sup>7</sup> Chancellor of Bangor; S. R. Cwm, 1624.

<sup>8</sup> R. Abingdon, dioc. Oxon.

<sup>9</sup> Dean of St. Asaph and S. R. Hope, 1731.

<sup>10</sup> Preb. Ely and V. Evesham, 1741; R. Denbigh, 1749; Canon, 1760.

<sup>11</sup> Dean of St. Asaph, 1774.

<sup>12</sup> Regius Professor of Divinity, Cambridge, and Preb. Ely; Bishop of Llandaff, 1782. Author of *Chemical Essays*, 6 vols.; *Occasional Sermons*, and an *Apology for Christianity*.

<sup>13</sup> Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford. Exchanged with Watson. Afterwards took the name of Booth.

<sup>14</sup> Son-in-law to Lord Chancellor Erskine, by whom he was presented to this. Preb. Chichester, and R. Poynings in that diocese; and R. Beaude-sert, dioc. Worcester.

<sup>15</sup> R. Mallwyd, 1527.

<sup>16</sup> R. Llangower, 1591.

1591.—CYNWAL, Rice <sup>1</sup>	1781.—JONES, William <sup>6</sup>
1609.—ROBERTS, Hugh <sup>2</sup>	1787.—MORRIS, Robert
1664.—LLOYD, Edward <sup>3</sup>	1790.—WYNNE, Howell
1666.—ROBERTS, Cadwaladr <sup>4</sup>	1805.—RICHARDS, Edward
1694.—ROBERTS, Cadwaladr	1814.—ELLIS, John <sup>7</sup>
1702.—LEWIS, Morgan	1821.—PUGHE, William <sup>8</sup>
1703.—PRICE, Walter	1827.—GRIFFITHS, George
1738.—JONES, John, B.A.	1830.—JONES, John
1760.—JONES, Robert, A.M. <sup>5</sup>	

1872.—ROBERTS, Ellis, Literate Deacon, 1862; Pr., 1863; C. Rhosymedre, 1862-66; R. Llanfihangel, G. M., 1866-72.<sup>9</sup>

### LLANGYSTENYN.

THIS parish consisted formerly of the two townships of Tre Iorwerth and Llanwdden, but being of small value they were united long ago, and their actual boundaries are not now known. Its area is 1,092 a. 2 r. 39 p., rated at £2,880 : 14 : 6, and its population 674.

In the *Taxatio* "Llangustenyn" is described as a Capella of Abergele, and therewith annexed to the Prebend of the Archdeacon. To the same effect it is returned in the Valor as appropriate to the archdeaconry, and its value given as £6 : 13 : 4.

The Commutation Returns gave the value as £284 to the Bishop (as Archdeacon), and these were, in 1871, transferred to the incumbent, whose income previously had been made up, 1. Augmentation by the Bishop,<sup>10</sup> £100; 2. Queen Anne's bounty and Parliamentary grant,<sup>11</sup> £17 : 1 : 2; 3. Part of the rent of "Rowlin Ucha Farm in Caerhyn", £12; 4. Rent of "Bryn Rhedyn" in this parish, £4; 5. The interest of £319 : 5 : 6 paid into the Court of Chancery, owing to a disagreement, £9.

The rector has also a house built in 1834, and five acres of glebe. Patron, the Bishop.

<sup>1</sup> R. Llangower, 1582-91.

<sup>2</sup> Vicar of this parish for forty years.

<sup>3</sup> Ejected from Llangower rectory by the Parliamentary sequestrators. Father of William Lloyd, the non-juring Bishop of Norwich.

<sup>4</sup> V. Pennant, 1664.

<sup>5</sup> Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge; V. Henllan.

<sup>6</sup> R. Bettws, G. G., 1755; R. Llanfihangel, G. M., 1760.

<sup>7</sup> R. Cerrigydrudion, 1820.

<sup>8</sup> R. Mallwyd, 1827.

<sup>9</sup> *Elis Wyn o Wyrfaï*, writer of Hymns and many Eisteddfod Prize Poems.

<sup>10</sup> Withdrawn since the transfer of the tithes.

<sup>11</sup> Two Queen Anne's Bounty grants, of £200 each, were made in 1771 and 1809, and a parliamentary grant of £1,000 in 1823. Part of these invested in the tenements below.



The church, dedicated to Cystenyn Fendigaid, Pendragon of the Britons and father of Digain the founder of Llangernyw, was rebuilt in 1843, at a cost of £780. It consists of a single aisle, with a western gallery and bell turret. The east window of five lights contains a few remains of the old stained glass, thus described in the *Cambro-Briton*: "Here are some fragments of elegantly painted glass. The first figure is our Saviour, the second St. George and the Dragon, the third Justice with her balance, in the one end of which is represented a sinner, and in the other his sins, and the devil underneath pulling down the latter to make it preponderate. In the south window of the chancel are the following in the centre, Stus. Petrus with his keys, on his right Nicholaus, and on his left St. Catharina, and underneath "Orate pro animabus, etc."<sup>1</sup>

The charities consist of a share, with Conway, Eglwys Rhos, and Llandudno of the tythes of Conway and of a share with Eglwys Rhos of a weekly dole of bread, charged on the lands of Gloddaeth, both of them the bequests of Mr. Serjeant Owen, in 1623, and amounting in all to £21 per annum.

#### INCUMBENTS.

1683.—OWEN, Humphrey<sup>2</sup>

1745.—WILLIAMS, William

1749.—LLOYD, David, B.A.

1755.—ELLIS, Zaccheus

1757.—BENNETT, Gilbert

1763.—OWEN, Owen

1766.—EDWARDS, Edward<sup>3</sup>

1783.—PUGH, Richard<sup>4</sup>

1831.—HUGHES, J. E.<sup>4</sup>

1846.—ROBERTS, Edward, M.A., Jesus College, Oxon.; Deac., 1837; Pr., 1838; P. C. Pontbleiddyn, 1840-6.

#### LLANRWST.

THIS parish, which is of great extent, partly cultivated and partly wild and unenclosed, is situated in the counties of Denbigh and Carnarvon, and is more than forty miles in circumference. It is divided into eight townships, of which seven, viz., Tre'r dre isa, Tre'r dre ucha, Garthgyfannedd, Maethebrwd, Tybrith isa, Tybrith ucha, and Garth Garmon are in the county of Denbigh and Hundred of Uwchdulas, and embrace an area of 15,298 acres. The eighth township, Gwydir, or Tre-wydir, is in the county of Carnarvon,<sup>5</sup> and the Hundred of Nant-Conway, reaching from the river Conway at Llanrwst bridge, in a south-westerly direction to the top of Moel Siabod, and

<sup>1</sup> Vol. ii, p. 308.

<sup>2</sup> V. Carnarvon.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanrwst, 1783; P. C. Eglwys Rhos.

<sup>4</sup> P. C. Eglwys Rhos.

<sup>5</sup> MS. Book Z. (Bishop Madox's Book) states that this township was in the diocese of Bangor. It has, however, long since ceased to be so.

contains 7,694 acres, thus making the area of the whole parish 22,992 acres.

The rateable value of the seven first-named townships is £12,634, and the population 3,765; and of Gwydir £1,314, and 405 respectively. The rateable value of the whole parish is thus £13,248, and the population 4,170. Of these 831 are in the conventional district of Capel Garmon, and 105 in a part of Trewydir, assigned in 1866 by Order in Council to the Church of Capel Curig; there is also the private chapel near Gwydir Castle, with a full service every Sunday, whilst the Church of Bettws y Coed provides in some degree for the spiritual wants of the population in another direction.

The name of Grwst, the original founder of the church, belongs to the sixth century, and appears, together with Deiniol (founder of the See of Bangor), Trillo, and Rhun, the king's son, among the signatories of the grant of Maelgwn Gwynedd to St. Kentigern.<sup>1</sup> At a much later period another Rhun, the son of Nefydd Hardd, founder of one of the fifteen tribes of North Wales, is said to have given land, and to have erected the church on its present site, "to expiate the murder of Prince Idwal, the son of Owen Gwynedd, by order of his foster father Nefydd, to whom he had been entrusted."<sup>2</sup> Whether the right of sanctuary had previously belonged to it, as appears to have been the case, with most of the earliest Welsh churches, or whether it was now conferred in consequence of the special circumstances of this case is uncertain; but it is evident that such a right did exist not long after this; for among the funds for which the "Receptor ecclesiæ Asaphensis", or treasurer of the Cathedral was held responsible was one item, "De exitibus sanctuarii de Llanrwst."<sup>3</sup> The land belonging to this church whensoever and by whomsoever given appears to have been of considerable extent; for among the complaints against Llewelyn, Prince of Wales, drawn up by the Bishop and Chapter, to be presented to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and by him transmitted to the Pope (A.D. 1276), we find him accused of having usurped this manor.

"Item, villam de Lanerost cum omnibus suis juribus ad ecclesiam Assavensem spectantibus, in cujus possessione plenaria in tempore domini Henrici illustris regis Anglie, Lewelini ap Iorwerth et Dd ab Lewelino principum Wallie et etiam a tempore cujus apud homines non extat memoria extitit pacifice ecclesia memorata; idem nobilis auferre non expavit honeste et adhuc detinet ablatam; salvo quod Ecclesie V solidos pro eadem annuos (annuatim) persolvit."<sup>4</sup>

The prince's plea for his conduct was that traitors and rebels against his authority were harboured, and that right of sanctuary was abused. "Alios etiam barones de terra nostra fugativos ac felones, qui machinati fuerunt in mortem nostram, in terra sua (ecclesia) receptat, juvat et manutenet contra formam pacis supradictam; non obstante quod

<sup>1</sup> *Suprà*, p. 180.

<sup>3</sup> P. 193 *suprà*.

<sup>2</sup> Pennant's *Tours*, ii, p. 311.

<sup>4</sup> *Llyfr Côch*.

prædas in terris nostris ceperint; homicidia incendia commiserunt; et adhuc non cessant facere similia."<sup>1</sup> A description not less true of the lawless bands, which some two hundred years later infested and plundered the country and still found safe refuge in the neighbouring sanctuary of Ysptyty Ieuan, until they were finally dislodged from thence, and after a wild career as the dreaded "Gwylliaid Cochion Mawddwy" were gradually exterminated. Llewelyn appears, in any case, to have had some ground for his proceedings, and his annual acknowledgment of five shillings may have been the equivalent of the above "Exitus Sanctuarii de Lanerost."<sup>2</sup> In the *Taxatio* of 1291 we have "Rectoria taxatur £6:13:4; dec 13s. 4d. Vicaria £4 non decimat;" and in the *Valor*, 1535, "rectoria valet clare £11:16:8, dec. regi £1:3:8; Vicaria, £6:5:4, dec. 12s. 6¼d. When Bishop Barrow proceeded to unite the rectory and vicarage, in 1678, their respective values were £80 and £30; and it is stipulated in the Act (29 and 30 Car. II Regis) "that the said rectory being first united to the vicarage, shall be for ever charged and made hereby liable to the payment of the annual sum of twenty pounds to the minister or curate for the time being, officiating at the chapel of St. German within the said parish." The Commutation Returns assigned to the rector £900, in lieu of all the tithes of the Denbighshire portion, and £16:19:2 in lieu of the small tithes of Trewydir in Carnarvonshire;<sup>3</sup> the great tithes of which were commuted at £85, and belong to the Lady Willoughby de Eresby, as impropiator. In 1868 a sum of £115:1:2 was transferred by the rector, with the consent of the bishop as patron, out of his tithes to Capel Garmon for the payment of the £20 above mentioned, and the augmentation of the incumbent's income; and this benefaction was met by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners with a further augmentation of £17:10 per annum, by an Order in Council, dated August 6th, 1868. The rector has an excellent house, erected in 1832,<sup>4</sup> at a cost of about £1,600, but no glebe except the garden and about three quarters of an acre of mountain enclosure, rented at 2s. 6d. per annum. The patronage belongs to the Bishop.

<sup>1</sup> *Councils*, i, 507.

<sup>2</sup> Bishop Tanner says that Llewelyn took away this manor from the see of St. Asaph.

<sup>3</sup> "The Duke of Ancaster in 1730 paid 13s. 4d. for tithe of Gwydir demesne, and 12s. 4d. for Gwydir township." (Z.) In the commutation deed a modus of £1:19:2 for Gwydir demesne is mentioned, and forms part of the £16:19:2.

<sup>4</sup> The old house is described, in 1791, as "a dwelling-house, a barn, and a stable, being seven small bays, all under one roof, covered with straw, in no bad order. There are two small gardens and stackyard, with three Dutch hovels. There are adjoining two fields called 'Cae'r Porson' (twelve acres), held under the rent of 10s. by the Gwydir family." (M.)



The parish church (St. Grwst<sup>1</sup>, December 1st), consists of chancel and nave, divided by a beautifully carved rood loft and screen, a chapel belonging to the Gwydir family on the south side of the chancel, and a gallery and tower at the west end. Its earliest features are a small round-headed doorway on the south side, and a triple lancet in the north wall. The east window is perpendicular, and beneath it, serving as a small altar-piece, a cast in Berlin iron, of the Last Supper, after Leonardo da Vinci.<sup>2</sup> The font is modern and Norman-esque. The walls are occupied by several memorial brasses and tablets, among the former to "William Brickdale, A.M. Vicar," 1653-90; "Thomas Wynne, A.M. Rector and Prebendary of St. Asaph," ob. 1741, Edward Edwards, M.A., Rector, 1756, "Gulielmus John Richard de Caerberllan," 1719; and Griffith Lloyd, "olim Magistri indigni Lanrustiensis, nuper Lecturarii indignioris et Rectoris indignissimi Doegensis;" and Morgan Davies, A.M., Rector and Canon of St. Asaph, died in 1867. Among the latter one to "Margaret Vaughan of Caergai," the writer of many lyrical poems, and called by some the Sappho of her age; and one erected by parishioners and friends to T. G. Roberts, M.A., Rector, d. 1852; in whose time the fabric of this church was renovated and St. Mary's built. The distinguishing feature of the edifice is the rich and elaborate rood loft, with its elegant screen work and graceful bands of vine pattern. If the church shared in the desolation with which William Earl of Pembroke, in the reign of Edward IV, visited the district, when he reduced the town to ashes in revenge for the wasting of the town of Denbigh by some captains of the Lancastrian faction, and it is said to have been rebuilt about the year 1470; then the tradition is probably true which states it to have been brought hither at the dissolution from the neighbouring Abbey of Maenan, though it must at the same time be borne in mind that screens were general, and rood lofts not uncommon in the parish churches down to at least the middle of the last century. The next best instance to this still surviving in the diocese is that at Derwen.

The Gwydir Chapel, on the south side of the chancel, was erected, as appears from an inscription over the door,<sup>3</sup> by Sir Richard Wyn in 1634, and is said to have been designed, as well as the bridge, by Inigo Jones. It is of great interest and remarkable for its tombs and monuments, its portrait brasses, and Jacobean woodwork. On the floor lies the stone coffin of Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, Prince of Wales from 1195 to 1240, the founder of Aberconway Abbey, whence the grateful monks transferred it on their removal in the time of

<sup>1</sup> "A wooden image of this saint in ye brod loft," c. 1735. (Z.)

<sup>2</sup> Presented by the late Viscount Dungannon, who also gave a similar one in St. Martin's.

<sup>3</sup> "Rich. Wyn de Gwyder, Mil' et Baronet' Reginæ Majest' Thesaur., propriis nobilis F. defuncti patris sumptibus struxit an'o Do'i 1634. Laus et gloria soli Deo." Above this are the armorial bearings of the family. Towards the erection of this chapel Sir John Wynn bequeathed £100.

Edward I to Maenan, whence again on the dissolution of that house it was brought hither. The lid is gone, but the lower portion is adorned with quatrefoils. Close to it the recumbent effigy in mailed armour of "Howel Coytmor ap Gruff Vychan ap Gruff Gam," from whose descendants Gwydir is said to have been purchased by the first of the Wynns. In another part lies a large square slab which seems to have been once covered with a canopy, and has a Latin inscription running round the edge in memory of five of the sons of Sir John Wyn, who died in the lifetime of their father A.D. 1613, and ending with the moral, "Funus, Fumus, Fuimus, ecce!" On the east wall is a tablet commemorative of the erection of the chapel and descriptive of the founder's family, which it traces back to Owen Gwynedd, Prince of Wales. On the south wall are two rich pyramidal columns, decorated respectively with martial and floral emblems, and memorial to "Meredith Wynn, the descendant of Owen Gwynedd, the founder of the House of Gwydir and rebuilder of the Church of Dolwyddelan",<sup>1</sup> who died in the expedition against Tournay A.D. 1525; and to "Sir John Wynne and the Lady Sydney his wife." Among the portrait brasses on the walls are some to the above Sir John Wynne, ob. 1626; and Sydney his widow, 1632; to Mary Mostyn their daughter, by Silvanus Crewe, 1653; and Sir Owen their son, by the same artist, ob. 1660; and one very elaborate and beautiful, by an otherwise unknown artist, William Vaughan, to Dame Sarah Wynne, who died in 1671. Another small brass commemorates Katherine Lewis of Festiniog, 1669; and there is also a small alabaster effigy of Sydney Wynne, a child, ob. 1629. The roof is fine and has bosses with dates and initials of the period of its erection. The stall work and paneling are of good Jacobean character, and the eagle lectern and the desk still exist, from which in former times the daily prayer was read, morning and evening, by the usher of the school to the almsmen and schoolboys. In the eastern wall of the churchyard is inserted the stone which was formerly on the western gable of the almshouse; on it is engraved the seal of the hospital, a lamb with a flag, and the motto "Victima Nostra," with the date 1610.

ST. MARY'S, CHAPEL OF EASE—An inscription in the entrance porch beneath the tower states that this church was erected in 1842, with the subscriptions of a few pious individuals, for the benefit of the English residents and daily increasing number of visitors.<sup>2</sup> An

<sup>1</sup> "Meredith Wynne AR., Oweni Gwynedd quondam Cambriæ Principis progenies,—felicibus auspiciis fundavit domum Gwydir.....Fanum S'ti Gwyddelan transtulit et reedificavit. In expeditione Tornatensi fato cessit."

<sup>2</sup> "Hanc ædem in usum frequentis crescentisque indies Anglicani cœtus qui linguam antiquam Britannicam in ecclesia vicina usurpatam minus intelligerent, benevola paucorum pietas collata pecunia exstruendam præcipue curavit, anno salutis humanæ MDCCXLII. Thomas Griffith Roberts, A.M., ecclesiæ parochialis de Llanrwst, Rector." The cost of the building was £2,574 : 11 : 6.

endowment was provided by the munificence of the Rev. H. Holland Edwards, M.A., prebendary of Westminster, and a former rector of the parish, who on the 31st July, 1839, made over to trustees a sum of £1,500, which with accumulation amounted, in 1842, to £1,665 : 10 : 9 ; and on 2nd Nov., 1843, added another gift of £1,500 Consols to increase the same ; thus supplying an annual sum of £94 : 19 : 2 for the payment of a curate, besides having, on the 25th May, 1841, given another £1,000 Red. 3 per Cents., of the interest of which £10 was to be paid to the clerk and sexton, and the remainder to be applied to church expenses and repairs.<sup>1</sup>

The foundation stone of the church was laid on May 26th, 1841, and it was consecrated October 28th, 1842. The ground plan consists of a nave and diminutive apse with a tower at the west end and vestry on the north side. The internal arrangement is peculiar, all the seats being made to face the central aisle. The east window of three lights is filled with memorial glass to Thomas Griffith Roberts, ob. 1853, during whose rectorship it was erected. The tracery is filled with angels, and the upper portion of the three compartments has the Crucifixion, and beneath, in the centre, the Lord's Supper, and on each side the washing of the disciples' feet and the Bearing of the Cross. Some wooden panneling forms a *quasi* reredos on the east wall. Architect, Mr. Kennedy.

The Private Chapel in the grounds of Gwydir and township of the same name was erected, as appears from inscriptions over the door and in front of the gallery, by Sir Richard Wynne, Bart., in 1673. The ceiling, which appears to have been at the first beautifully painted with angels bearing scrolls, &c., has been subsequently much bedaubed and injured. The body of the church is seated with chairs facing the desk at the west end. The communion table of well carved oak is dated 1641. Prayers are read and a sermon preached here once every Sunday, but no baptisms or funerals are performed. There are consequently no registers, and indeed it is not known whether it was ever consecrated. Near this is the celebrated "Pren Gwyn," or Holy Tree ; around which as elsewhere around the Holy Well, the people of the district used to meet for their gossip and holiday games.

Browne Willis (i, 344) mentions the former existence of two other chapels in this parish. "There were formerly two more, *Capel Rhyddin* in Rhos, and *Capel Marchell* in Tybrith isaf." The reasons for believing one, if not both of them to have been at "Rhyd Laufair" are given under Capel Garmon. It is also said that there was once a church or chapel at Bryn-y-gefeiliau in the southern portion of Gwydir township ; some ruins of which, if not still to be seen, were visible within the memory of people now living.

JESUS HOSPITAL.—Under this name the endowment of both the alms-

<sup>1</sup> The same generous donor built a good and substantial house near the gates of the parish church, for the parish clerk, for which he was to pay a rental of only £2 12s. per ann.



houses and the grammar school are included. In the year 1610 Sir John Wynn of Gwydir erected an almshouse here for twelve poor persons, a house for a warden, and a school-house. He also conveyed to the school the field called Cae Heylyn, in which it was built, and endowed the hospital with an annual sum of ten pounds, until such time as the tithes of Eglwysfach, then held on a life lease, should fall or come into possession. But whether all this was done entirely at his own cost or mainly with monies left to him in trust for that purpose by a Mr. John Williams of Dolwyddelan and London, has been much disputed. The history of the endowment is given at length in the Charity Report for 1837, from which it appears that after many fluctuations both as to the number of, and payments to the almspeople, and the number of the scholars, both had at that time practically fallen into abeyance, the former since 1803, the latter since 1817. The inquiry thus set on foot was vigorously prosecuted, and chiefly through the energy of the late Dr. Owen Owen Roberts of Bangor, the endowment, which had become impropriated by Lord Willoughby d'Eresby and treated as a private benefaction, was recovered and restored to its proper uses, by an Order of the Court of Chancery dated 5 July, 1851. The buildings were renewed about the same time, and are now occupied by their twelve inmates, of whom six are from the parish of Llanrwst, two from Dolwyddelan, one from Bettws-y-coed, and three from Eglwysfach. Their weekly allowance is six shillings each. They must be above sixty years of age on admission, and are required to attend some place of worship once every Sunday, and morning and evening prayers to be read daily in one of the rooms of the almshouse by one of the masters of the school.

Another charity which shared much the same fate with the above was that of Dame Mary MOSTYN and Dame Grace WYNN, or rather Mr. Maurice Wynn. In the year 1653 Dame Mary Mostyn, widow of Sir Roger Mostyn, Knt., and daughter of Sir Owen Wynne of Gwydir, gave unto her brother, Mr. Maurice Wynne, £100 for the purchase of lands, in trust that when the rental should reach £6 per annum, 10 shillings each should be given to eight poor widows, and 40s. for an apprenticing fund; to this Mr. Maurice Wynn added £28 of his own, and purchased a tenement of about 20 acres, with a house upon it in Gwytherin, adding the condition that the residue of the rent should be applied to the repairs of the hall and market-house which he had erected in the town. This property, however, appears to have been treated as private and the rental never applied as was intended, and finally it was sold by Lord Willoughby d'Eresby in 1810 for £400. The late inquiry, however, instituted and carried on mainly by Dr. O. O. Roberts, resulted in the recovery of this charity also; and £848, representing the principal and interest, are now invested in Consols, producing an annual income of £25 : 8 : 8.

The Brynmorfydd charity, arising from the personalty of Mr. Evan DAVIES of Brynmorfydd, bequeathed by him in 1766 and now invested in two sums, viz., £500 in New 3 per Cents., yielding an annual dividend of £15, and £107 : 13 : 5 in Consols, yielding £5 : 4 : 6 per ann.

Consolidated charities amounting to £275 10s.<sup>1</sup> are invested in the Wrexham and Ruthin Turnpike Trust.

The national school for boys and girls, with class room and master's house, was erected in 1846, at a cost of £1,510 17s., the principal contributor being the Rev. H. Holland Edwards. Grants of £296 were made by the Privy Council, and £145 by the National Society.

## SINECURE RECTORS.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1537.—SALUSBURY, Robert <sup>2</sup>   | 1634.—WYNNE, Morgan, D.D. <sup>6</sup>    |
| 1573.—JONES, Henry, LL.D. <sup>3</sup> | 1644.—Owen, Bishop, <i>in com.</i>        |
| 1592.—HUGHES, Bishop, <i>in com.</i>   | 1666.—OTWAY                               |
| 1596.—LLOYD, George, B.D. <sup>4</sup> | 1672.—BRIDGEMAN, Henry, D.D. <sup>7</sup> |
| 1602.—SHARP, Peter, D.D. <sup>5</sup>  | 1677.—CLOPTON, Thomas <sup>8</sup>        |
| 1616.—PARRY, Bishop, <i>in com.</i>    |   |

## VICARS.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1537.—GRIFFITH, John <sup>9</sup>          | 1618.—EVANS, Richard <sup>14</sup>         |
| ——— POWEL, Jeffrey <sup>10</sup>           | 1619.—LLOYD, Robert <sup>15</sup>          |
| 1551.—KYFFIN, Jeffrey, LL.B. <sup>11</sup> | 1638.—JEFFREYS, Richard <sup>16</sup>      |
| 1585.—LLOYD, Rice                          | 1642.—JONES, Hugh <sup>17</sup>            |
| 1609.—PIGOT, Richard <sup>12</sup>         | 1653.—BRICKDALE, Wm., A.M. <sup>18</sup>   |
| 1614.—SALUSBURY, Reginald <sup>13</sup>    | 1690.—WILLIAMS, Thomas, M.A. <sup>19</sup> |

<sup>1</sup> £50 by John Salisbury, late of Bachymbyd; £30 by David Maurice of Siambr Wen; £10 by Ann Richard, for Garthgarmon, in 1741; and the residue of his personalty by Maurice Hughes, of Dulasau and Penmachno, in 1722.

<sup>2</sup> S. R. Llansannan and V. Corwen.

<sup>3</sup> S. R. Llansannan, 1561; Canon, 1560. (P. 260.)

<sup>4</sup> Bishop of the Isle of Man, 1599; Chester, 1604. <sup>5</sup> S. R. Pennant, 1595.

<sup>6</sup> Fellow of All Souls', Oxford; S. R. Cilcain, 1622; R. Scotter, and Arch-deacon of Lincoln.

<sup>7</sup> Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford, 1633; Dean of Chester, 1658; R. Bangor-is-coed; Prebendary of York, 1660; Bishop of the Isle of Man in succession to Bishop Barrow, 1671.

<sup>8</sup> Preb. of Meifod, 1677; R. Castle Caereinion, 1678. (P. 256.)

<sup>9</sup> S.-R. Llanbrynmair; Canon, 1536.

<sup>10</sup> R. Manafon, 153-; V. Llangernyw and R. Llanddoget, 1551; Canon, 1552.

<sup>11</sup> R. Llandrinio, 1551; Canon, 1566.

<sup>12</sup> R. Llandegla, 1597; V. Denbigh, 1614.

<sup>13</sup> V. Llanasa, 1615; Canon, 1622; R. Denbigh, 1625.

<sup>14</sup> V. Tremeirchion, 1619; Canon, 1621; V. Llanasa, 1633. (P. 255.)

<sup>15</sup> V. Chirk, 1615; V. Cwm, 1620; R. Llandyssil, 1625.

<sup>16</sup> Canon of Bangor and R. Llanllechid.

<sup>17</sup> Deprived by Committee of Sequestrators.

<sup>18</sup> Canon of St. Asaph, 1660; Precentor of Bangor and R. Llanbedr cum Caerhun, 1670. Monumental tablet in the church.

<sup>19</sup> V. Denbigh, 1697; translator of Nelson's *Fasts and Festivals*, 1712.

1697.—BAKER, Thomas<sup>1</sup>1702.—JONES, Griffith<sup>2</sup>1709.—SALUSBURY, Robert, LL.D.<sup>3</sup>

## RECTORY AND VICARAGE UNITED.

1714.—WYNNE, Thomas<sup>4</sup>1799.—HOLLAND-EDWARDS, Howell, A.M.<sup>8</sup>

1742.—EDWARDS, Edward

1756.—JONES, John, A.M.<sup>5</sup>1830.—ROBERTS, Thomas Griffith, A.M.<sup>9</sup>1778.—HUMPHREYS, H., M.A.<sup>6</sup>1783.—EDWARDS, Edward, M.A.<sup>7</sup> 1852.—DAVIES, Morgan, M.A.<sup>10</sup>

1868.—JONES, Hugh, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford ; B.A., Third Class, Litt. Hum., 1836 ; Fellow, 1839 ; P. C. Bagillt, 1839 ; V. Holywell, 1844 ; Hon. Canon, 1850 ; Residentiary, 1860 ; Proctor for the Chapter in Convocation, 1872. Author of Sermons ; *The Christian's Example*.

## THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

IN the "Orders, Rules, Statutes, and Ordinances," said to have been drawn up by Sir John Wynn on the 4th of November, 1613, for the government of Jesus Hospital, he appointed that in the foundation there should be a free school, the master of which should have £20 per annum, with a house and garden, and the usher should also have £10 per annum and his house and garden ; "and stated his intention to build the school-house in Cae Heilyn, and the schoolmaster's house and usher's house in Erw y defaid." The school-house was accordingly erected and a house each for the master and the usher in the year 1610. The endowment was to arise out of the rectorial tithes of Eglwysfach, out of which the usher was to receive a further sum of five pounds per annum, for acting as chaplain to the Hospital and reading prayers in the Gwydir chapel for the benefit of the scholars and almspeople. The head master was to be a member of one of the universities, and the nomination to be in the heir of the house of Gwydir, together with the warden of the Hospital of Jesus for ever,

<sup>1</sup> R. Manafon, 1702.<sup>2</sup> Master of the School ; R. Bodvari, 1715 ; R. Denbigh, 1726.<sup>3</sup> R. Clocaenog, 1705 ; Canon of Bangor, 1710.<sup>4</sup> V. Ysgeifiog, 1697 ; Canon, 1720.<sup>5</sup> R. Llansantffraid Glan Conway, 1743 ; Canon, 1763.<sup>6</sup> R. Cerrigydrudion, 1763 ; Canon, 1773 ; Prebendary of Salisbury.<sup>7</sup> Of Pennant in Eglwysfach ; R. Llansantffraid G. C., 1757-84.<sup>8</sup> Chaplain to Bishop Bagot ; Canon, 1792. Resigned this rectory in 1730, on being appointed Prebendary of Westminster. Son of the preceding.<sup>9</sup> Examining Chaplain to Bishop Carey ; Canon, 1830. (P. 264.)<sup>10</sup> Examining Chaplain to Bishop Short ; Residentiary Canon, 1861. (P. 265.)



to be approved and allowed by their diocesan the Lord Bishop of St. Asaph.

But in a bill filed in Chancery on the 27th May, 1678, by the Attorney-General against Sir John Wynne, it is stated that "John Williams of London and Dolwyddelan had been seized in fee of the rectory of Eglwysfach, expectant on a lease determinable on the death of Thomas Price, and also of large personal estate, and that he gave a large sum of money to erect at Dolwyddelan a school house and alms-house, and a house for a warden, who was to read prayers to the men and superintend the same, that this money was lodged in the hands of Sir John Wynne and John Williams his son, and that he assigned the reversion of the rectory upon trust for them to pay to the school-master £20 yearly, £8 to the usher and £20 to the warden, and the remainder of the profits to the ten poor almsmen;" and that finding it too expensive to build at Dolywddelan they erected the school house, alms-house, and warden's house at Llanrwst, so that each of the three parishes should have an equal benefit of his charity. It was denied on the other hand that Mr. Williams had had anything to do with it, and no further result was attained; but the whole circumstances of the case rather imply that it was the joint foundation of Mr. Williams and Sir John. The endowments, however, seem to have been treated in a great measure not so much as an appropriation of the rectorial tithes as a charge upon them, and even so not to have been always regularly paid, and the school appears in consequence to have been regarded at times rather as a charity than a grammar school. It was also considered free to all parishes till about the year 1803, when fees began to be levied, or perhaps it should be said renewed, for in a copy of the original rules and ordinances a scale is laid down. The fluctuation in numbers has also been very great; in 1795 there were 40 pupils, and in 1804 about 130, but in 1817 there was not one left, and from 1822 to 1828 the school was in entire abeyance. In 1828 the first master was appointed who was not a graduate. The funds of the charity, however, had become so misappropriated, and the school so deteriorated, that the whole question was put into Chancery, and through the energy mainly of Dr. O. O. Roberts of Bangor the charity recovered to its original purposes, for which a new scheme was issued by the Court in 1851. In this scheme regulations are laid down for the government, instruction and discipline of the school, and it is provided that the trustees shall be eleven in number, the rector of the parish to be one; and that the head master shall be a graduate, with preference for one in holy orders. His stipend to be not less than £150 nor more than £200 per annum, the second to have £120, and any other masters £50 per annum. Both the head and second masters may take boarders and may accept a chaplaincy or lectureship in Llanrwst, but may not hold a parochial cure. Preference is given to boys from the four parishes of Llanrwst, Bettws y Coed, Dolwyddelan and Eglwysfach; and rules are laid down for their attendance at prayers and church services, with a conscience clause attached. The present number of boys is forty, and their instruction includes classics, mathematics, history, &c.

## HEAD MASTERS.

16....—WYNNE, Roger <sup>1</sup>	1763.—PUGH, Richard, B.A.
1683.—JORDAN, William, M.A.	1791.—WILLIAMS, John, A.M. <sup>7</sup>
1702.—JONES, Griffith, M.A. <sup>2</sup>	1812.—DAVIES, Edmund, A.M.
1709.—LLOYD, Griffith, M.A. <sup>3</sup>	1822-8.—Vacant.
1712.—WILLIAMS, Owen, B.A. <sup>4</sup>	1828.—DAVIES, Nathaniel
1726.—KENRICK, John, A.B. <sup>5</sup>	1851.—FREEBORN, J. W., M.A. <sup>8</sup>
1730.—JONES, John, A.B.	1865.—LEWIS, T. Wolseley, M.A. <sup>9</sup>
1753.—EDWARDS, Edward, A.B. <sup>6</sup>	

1870.—BERRY, W. Gilbert, M.A., Christ Church, Oxford; B.A., 1868; Second Master, 1868; Head Master, 1870; Deac., 1871; Pr., 1872.

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 CAPEL GARMON.

ORIGINALLY a chapel of ease to Llanrwst, this district comprises the townships of Garthgarmon and Tybrith ucha, with a population of 831. The earliest reference to the erection of the church attributes it to about the time of the Reformation;<sup>10</sup> but whether before or after that event, it does not say. In 1676 Mr. Thomas Wynne of Llwyni gave "the messuage and lands called 'Llanerch goch' *alias* 'Tyddyn y Capel,'" comprising about thirty-six acres, now worth £30 per annum, to the minister or curate for reading divine service, etc., and teaching ten poor children; and two years later Bishop Barrow, in his Act for the Union of Sinecure Rectories to their vicarages, stipulated that in the case of Llanrwst £20 per annum should be paid from the said benefice to the minister of this chapelry; two grants of £200 each made by Queen Anne's Bounty in 1767 and 1792, together with a Parliamentary grant of £800 in

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<sup>1</sup> Dismissed by Sir O. Wynne (who died in 1660) because he would not allow the children to learn the Lord's Prayer.

<sup>2</sup> R. Bodfari, 1715; R. Denbigh, 1726. Author of several pamphlets on points of controversy between the Church of England and the Romanists and Presbyterians.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanddoget, 1709. Monument in the parish church.

<sup>4</sup> R. Llysfaen, 1726.

<sup>5</sup> University College, Oxon.; V. Llangernyw, 1730. <sup>6</sup> Previously usher.

<sup>7</sup> Formerly Fellow of Jesus College, Oxon.; R. Llanbedr y Cenin. Ob. 1826.

<sup>8</sup> Worcester College, Oxford; Second Class Mathem., 1846; Head Master of Ruthin, 1865.

<sup>9</sup> Jesus College, Oxford; Scholar, First Class, Nat. Sc.; Assistant Master of Shrewsbury School, 1864; Master in Cheltenham College, 1870.

<sup>10</sup> MS. Z., c. 1735, says "about two hundred years ago."

1815, were invested in the purchase of Garthmyn farm, now worth £50 per annum, and of Gelli, rented at £20 per annum; and in virtue of these lands allotments have been added, viz. Tynyffron, now let for building purposes at a ground-rent of £24 per annum, and Gwern y Baedd, rented at £3 per annum; in addition to which there are four cottages and two gardens let at £7 2s. per annum. In 1868 the sum of £115:1:2 was transferred by the rector of Llanrwst out of his tithes, in lieu of the previous £20 per annum, and in augmentation of the stipend, and this was met by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners with a further augmentation of £17 10s., making the entire income £266:13:2 per annum, out of which £6 is paid to the schoolmaster. The vicarage house was rebuilt in 1846 at a cost of £360, which was defrayed by the Rev. H. Holland Edwards, prebendary of Westminster, formerly rector of the mother parish of Llanrwst and founder of St. Mary's Church.

The church dedicated in the name of Garmon, or St. Germanus, is the third on the same site within a hundred years. The first was pulled down in 1789; and another consecrated in its stead by Bishop Bagot, on July 6th of the following year. That edifice was in plan a simple parallelogram, small in size, and with no distinguishing feature, and was in its turn taken down ten years ago. In the petition for its consecration it was stated that the donation or collation belonged to the bishop, but it has subsequently become, and is now, vested in the rector of Llanrwst. The new church, which has been entirely rebuilt in the early English style, from the designs of Mr. E. G. Paley, at a cost of £880, was consecrated on the 11th November, 1863. It consists, like its predecessor, of a simple nave, having a vestry on the north side and a porch on the south, with a small bell gable at the west end.

The school was rebuilt in 1854, at a cost of £65 5s. It has a small endowment of £6, as already stated, arising out of Llanerch goch glebe.

The charities consist of the interest of £10 left by Anne verch Richard, and a share in those of Dame Mary Mostyn, Evan Davies, and Morris Hughes to the poor of the mother parish.

At "Rhyd Lanfair," *i. e.*, St. Mary's Ford, in the township of Tybrith, there appears to have been formerly a chapel or oratory, perhaps the same with "Capel Marchell in Tybrith," mentioned in Browne Willis, and the original name may have been "Rhyd Lanfar-chell in Tybrith." It may at the same time have been the "Capel Rhyddin in Rhos, mentioned by the same authority, *i. e.*, "The Chapel of the Castle Ford, "Rhyd-y-ddin," still commemorated in Dinas close by, near the line of the old Roman road which passed Carreglleon. This, moreover, derives some confirmation from the name given to it in the charter of Conway Abbey, in which it is called Llanfair-Ryt-Castell. Most likely the old Capel Marchell may have been rebuilt by the Cistercian monks of Aberconway, the owners of the adjacent Tir-yr-Abbot, and by them as so often elsewhere, re-dedicated in the name of the Virgin.



## PERPETUAL CURATES.

1735.—JONES, John, B.A.

1838.—EVANS, Edward, B.A.<sup>2</sup>1831.—LEWIS, Thomas, B.A.<sup>1</sup>1855.—JONES, Owen.<sup>3</sup>

*Vicar.*—1857. PRICHARD, John, St. Bees ; Deac., 1856 ; Pr., 1857 ; Curate of Llanycil, 1856-7.

## LLANSANTFFRAID GLAN CONWAY.

“ST. BRIDE’S on the shore of the Conway” was anciently called “Disserth,” probably from some “hill fortlet” that crowned its “steep” sides.<sup>4</sup> Two names still survive to hand down some note of its pre-Christian story, viz., “Allor Moloch,” an early Druidic Cromlech, and “Bryn Eisteddfod,” the hill of Bardic Congress. One name also tells of its evangelisation, and probably its evangelist too, “Croes Engan.”

At first this appears to have been a part of the extensive district which owned Dinerth or Llandrillo as its ecclesiastical head, for the rectorial tithes of all the townships, except the one in which the church is placed, were paid either to the bishop or else to the vicar and rector of Llandrillo, who from the year 1759 has been the bishop. The *Taxatio* gives “Eccl’ia de Dyserth Sanfreyt tax’ rectoria £2 : 13 : 4 non decimat’—Vicaria £5 : 6 : 8,<sup>5</sup> dec. 10s. 8d.” The *Valor* has Rectoria de Disserth al’ dict’ Llansanffraid, valet 40s. dec. 4s., Vicaria £5 : 6 : 8, dec. 10s. 8d.” The commutation returns, 1838, give the following details of the townships and tithes.<sup>6</sup>

	Area.			Rector.			Par. Clerk.			Bishop.			V. Llandrillo.		
	A.	R.	P.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Trellan . . .	96	2	16...	25	6	7...				...			...		
Trebwill . . .	1789	2	1...	116	12	8...	13	0	0...	153	14	0...	46	13	10½
Tre Trallwyn . .	1175	1	23...	90	16	0...	2	14	0...	159	2	0...			
Tre Deunant and Penyrhos . . .	1959	2	12...	40	14	0...	3	1	6...	54	14	0...	30	12	5
	5021	0	12...	273	9	3...	18	15	6...	367	10	0...	77	6	3½

<sup>1</sup> V. Llanbrynmair, 1838 ; R. Manafon, 1851.

<sup>2</sup> V. Llanasa, 1855 ; R. Llanfihangel-yn Nghwnfa, 1860.

<sup>3</sup> V. Pentrevoelas, 1857.

<sup>4</sup> “Disserth,” in the deanery of St. Asaph, which is also dedicated to St. Bride, still retains its first name.

<sup>5</sup> But in a foot-note, £4 : 13 : 4.

<sup>6</sup> “Two-thirds of Trallwyn belong to the Bishop, one-third to the rector. Moiety of the tithe of Trebwill belongs to the rector of Llandrillo, and a third part of the other moiety to the vicar.” (Z. From old terrier, 1687.)

The glebe consists of 14 a. 2 r. 29 p.;<sup>1</sup> Hafodty Farm, 17 a.,<sup>2</sup> and an allotment of 2 a. 2 r. The old rectory house was burnt down in 1740; the present one was built in 1814 and is in a beautiful situation, overlooking Conway Bay. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The church, dedicated to St. Bride or Bridget, February 1,<sup>3</sup> consisted formerly of two parallel aisles, divided by a row of pillars, with a gallery at the west and a porch on the south side; but in 1839 it was rebuilt,<sup>4</sup> on which occasion the entrance was removed to the west end between two small towers, a small apse added at the east end and a vestry on the north side, the pillars removed and an open roof of a single span substituted. The font of granite, which has lost its lining of lead, has been renewed and carved with sacred emblems. The east window is filled with stained glass, representing the "Adoration." A window on the north side contains medallions of St. Paul, at his Conversion, at Athens, at Melita, and in Prison; another on the south has the Crucifixion. Three other windows are filled with quarries and with the royal arms and those of the see. Among the monuments are several to members of the Bryneisteddfod family, and one to rector Williams, 1867, by parishioners and friends. In the churchyard are some armorial slabs, and one or two appropriate cruciform tombstones to the same rector, and to Miss Green of Hendre-waelod.

"There was formerly a chapel about a quarter of a mile westward of the church, called 'Cappel St. Ffraid';" so we find in Browne Willis.<sup>5</sup> Another notice helps us a little nearer to the date. "On the sea bank was St. Bridget's Chapel, standing and in repair within memory, but the sea has carried away part of it."<sup>6</sup> This was written about the year 1735, and the work of obliteration has long since been completed.

The new school and school-house were built in 1857. There is also at Trofarth, in the parish of Bettws, a new school which accommodates a portion of this parish, which portion it is proposed to transfer to the district to be assigned to the new church, now in course of erection there.

Charities.—1. A sum of £45<sup>7</sup> was laid out by agreement of vestry

<sup>1</sup> This was an exchange, for 17 a. 2 r. 16 p. with Archdeacon Jones of Bryneisteddfod.

<sup>2</sup> A grant of £200 was made from Queen Anne's Bounty in 1792.

<sup>3</sup> "On her day, Feb. 1, the rector reads prayers; and out of the offerings of that day he is paid eighteen-pence,—the wardens twelve-pence, and the clerk six-pence, the rest to the poor." (Z.) "Attending St. Ffraid's Day" is a frequent entry in the old parish books.

<sup>4</sup> Chiefly through Archdeacon Chambres-Jones of Bryneisteddfod, one of the principal landowners in the parish.

<sup>5</sup> Edwards' edition, 1801, vol. i, p. 358.

<sup>6</sup> MS. Z.

<sup>7</sup> The benefaction table records, "Catherine Hughes, Bwlch, £20 in 1722; Owen Morris, Fron, 1739, and Jane Carreg, Bryneisteddfod, in 1765, each £10; and David Roberts, £5, in 1771.

in 1773, in building a schoolroom upon a piece of waste land called Brynrhys. 2. A sum of £20, arising from a gift of Mr. Thomas Roberts of Talgarth, was laid out, about the year 1715, in building two cottages for paupers, in consideration of which the parish officers used formerly to pay £2 per annum to the schoolmaster.

## RECTORS.

1536.—Thomas Rice or Gôch	1697.—JONES, Griffith
1561. { Griffith ab Ellis <sup>1</sup>	1705.—STODART, William
{ Gôch, Thomas	1708.—MEYRICK, William
1585.—Kyffin, David	„ Gwyn, John <sup>5</sup>
1602.—BARKER, John	1727.—ELLIS, Maurice
1613.—HOLLAND, John <sup>2</sup>	1743.—JONES, John, M.A. <sup>6</sup>
1614.—SALISBURY, Reginald, M.A. <sup>3</sup>	1757.—EDWARDS, Edward, A.M. <sup>7</sup>
„ JONES, Griffith	1783.—PUGH, Richard
1626.—HUGHES, Jasper	1810.—PUGH, Hugh
1640.—JONES, David <sup>4</sup>	1833.—JAMES, John
1661.—THOMAS, David	1837.—WILLIAMS, William
1867.—DAVIES, David, Lampeter; Deacon, 1845; Priest, 1846; P. C. Treuddyn, 1849-67.	

PENTREVOELAS.<sup>8</sup>

THIS district embraces as much of the grant of Llewelyn ap Iorwerth in 1195 to the Abbey of Aberconway, as lay within the parish of Llanefydd, and was thence called “Tir yr Abad,” with the addition of “isa” to distinguish it from the remainder which lay within the parish of Cerrig y drudion, and is known as Tir yr Abad ucha. In the time of Bishop Anian an arrangement was made between the Cathedral Chapter of St. Asaph as rectors and the brethren at Ysptyty, by which the latter were to perform divine service and administer the sacraments for the tribe of Marchweithian and Wyn in the Church of Dolygynwal, and in return to receive a third of all their tithes and

<sup>1</sup> “Dominus Griffinus ab Ellis, Presbiter, Rector de Llansantffraid, et absens. Dominus Thomas Gov, Vicarius, ibidem residens et hospitalis.” (Bishop Davies’ *Return to Archbishop Parker*; Br. Willis, ii, p. 144.) At this time, therefore, it is evident that the rectory and vicarage had not yet been united, nor is it known when that took place. The vicar may have been the same as in 1537; and it was probably the absent rector whom B. Willis should have described as parson of Aberdaron and chaplain of the household to the Earl of Arundel.

<sup>2</sup> V. Llansannan, 1614; R. Llanddulas, 1629.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llanrwst, 1614; V. Llanasa, 1618; Canon, 1622; R. Denbigh, 1625.

<sup>4</sup> Vic. Choral, deprived; V. Bettws yn Rhos, 1666.

<sup>5</sup> V. Llandrillo yn Rhos, 1726.

<sup>6</sup> R. Llanrwst, 1756. Apparently in exchange with Edward Edwards.

<sup>7</sup> R. Llanrwst, 1742-56.

<sup>8</sup> The hamlet of the green hill.



offerings.<sup>1</sup> In accordance with this compact, whilst we find in the *Valor* of 1535 that the prebendary used to receive £10 per annum as his 'porcio de Llanefyth Uwchmynedd,'<sup>2</sup> a sum of £5, which would represent the remaining third, continued to be paid from the same tithes to the curate or minister of Yspytty for the very object above specified until the erection of the church here in 1766, from which time it has been paid to the incumbent of Pentrevoclas. But there was this difference, that whilst this payment continued as a fixed sum, instead of the third, the prebendary's share had grown to £228 at the commutation.

It was no doubt in furtherance of the above arrangement that the Voelas Chapel was originally added to Yspytty old Church, and that subsequently a small chapel, variously known as "Capel y Fidog", "Capel y Foelas," or "Capel y Pentre," was built for their greater convenience near the Pentrevelas Bridge, but within the limits of Yspytty. The incumbent of Yspytty was bound to read prayers and administer the sacrament in it four times a year and on Good Friday, in return for the £5 he received from Tir yr Abad; and as early as the beginning of the last century this was supplemented by a layman reading prayers on the other Sundays "for the contributions of the neighbours, of whom there is a pretty considerable number."<sup>3</sup> The last lay reader was Sion Davydd, usually called Sion Davydd Berson, who died in 1769; three years after, the old chapel<sup>4</sup> was replaced by a new one erected by Mr. Watkin Wynne of Voelas, who also with the aid of Queen Anne's Bounty provided an endowment for a clergyman, whose nomination was to be vested in him and his heirs. A transept was added in 1774 by his daughter, the Hon. Mrs. Finch, and a gallery at a later period. As this was not licensed for marriages,

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<sup>1</sup> "Omnibus Xti fidelibus has literas inspecturis vel audituris *Aniani Dei gratia* Ep. de S'to Asaph salutem : Ad vestram volumus pervenire notitiam quod hæc est conventio ex consensu nostro facta inter fr'tres domus Hospitalis de Jerosol de Dungyndwall ex una parte, et Ardiac et Wyn fil' Wasamfreyt et alios cum eisdem ex parte Ardiac in *Eccl'ia de Llanelwy p'ticipantes* ex alia parte viz. q'd predicti *f'tres Hospit. de Donegonewall* divina officia et omnia sacrosancta ecclesiastica p'ochianis de Llanelwy h'itantibus in Hiraethoke de Progenie Marchweithian et Wyn in eccl'ia de Donegynwall imperpetuum ministrabunt. Ita viz. q'd ipsi fr'tres hospit' de Donegonwall recipient pro servicio suo tertiam partem omnium decimarum p'dictor' p'ochianorum de Llanelwy in Hiraethok de progenie Marchweithan et Wyn et om' obventionum ad eccl'iam de Llanelwy spectantium. Hiis testibus Richardo Gronow, Blethynt filio Kendelw, Gronow filio Seisyllt, Madoco Vychan, Kenrico filio Grono, Jervasio f're Kenrici."—*Llyfr Côch*, 92.

<sup>2</sup> Another entry has evident reference to this portion and its uses: "Locacio porcionis de Hiraethawg quam L. E'p's ad *fabricam ecclesie* constituit per procuratorem fabrice ecclesie predictæ pro uno anno pro 9 lib' a'o 1312."—*Llyfr Côch*, 68A.

<sup>3</sup> MS. Z.

<sup>4</sup> The site is still marked by a yew-tree.

being within the parish of Llannefydd, and yet many marriages were solemnised here for convenience, as it was a distance of nine miles to the parish church, an Act was obtained by Bishop Horsey 44 George III, *i. e.* 1805, to legalise them. Some new burying-ground was consecrated in 1849.<sup>1</sup>

The church was entirely rebuilt in 1857 from the designs of Mr. Gilbert Scott, and at the expense of the patron, Mr. Wynne, of Voelas. It consists of a chancel, nave, and south transept, with a vestry on the north side, and a porch on the south. The double bell gable at the west end is copied from the one at Penmachno. The chancel is seated for choir, flagged with tiles, and lighted by a handsome corona, and has the east window of three lights filled with memorial glass to "Heneage Wynne, Major 68th Light Infantry, killed at the battle of Inkerman, Nov. 5th, 1854." The west window of two lancets has also stained glass, representing the Resurrection and the Ascension, and is memorial to "William Wynne of the Coldstream Guards," who died in 1863. The transept contains monuments to "John Griffith, Esq., of Cefn Amwlch," a great benefactor to the cure, who died 1794; the Hon. Jane Finch, 1811; Charles Wynne Griffith Wynne, 1865; and Sarah his wife, 1860, the last enriched with precious stones. Scrolls inscribed with "Shield of Faith," "Helmet of Salvation," and "Sword of the Spirit" (H.W.O. inven. et fecit. 1858) occupy the east wall. The font, which is circular, is supported on pillars of polished marble.

The endowment consists of (1) "Tanyrefail" in Llangystennyn, purchased in 1776 with a benefaction of £300 by Mr. Watkin Wynne, the founder of the last church in 1766, and £200, a grant to meet the same from Queen Anne's Bounty;<sup>2</sup> rental £33.

2. "Cae'r Bryshied," in Llanrwst, bought with two grants of £200 each in 1772 and 1776 from Queen Anne's Bounty; rental £55.

3. Land conveyed by Mr. C. W. G. Wynne in 1844, together with the site for the parsonage, thereby securing to the living a bequest of £100 per annum, by Mr. John Griffith of Cefn Amwlch, in 1794; which bequest, though for certain reasons void in law, was regularly paid, £100.

4. Augmentation by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who to meet the last named endowment made a grant of £2130 (being two-thirds of £3,195, the estimated value of the same) for building the parsonage<sup>3</sup> and improving the endowment, annual value £30.

5. The original charge of £5 on the tithes of Tir Abad, £5.

The national school was also built by Mr. Wynne, the patron, in 1852, and is supported by the Voelas family.

The first parish clerk was one John Thomas, whose poetical works were published in 1847, under the title of "Eos Gwynedd."

<sup>1</sup> The old chapel, "Capel y Fidog," had a small yard attached, but it was not consecrated. The burials took place at Ysptyty or Llannefydd.

<sup>2</sup> In the list of benefactions to Queen Anne's Bounty, the £300 is said to be in *lands*, the gift of Jane Wynne, spinster.

<sup>3</sup> This was done in 1846, at a cost of £1,150.

## PERPETUAL CURATES, NOW VICARS.

1771.—ROBERTS, Robert <sup>1</sup>	1824.—PRICE, Peter <sup>4</sup>
1787.—WYNNE, Ellis <sup>2</sup>	1842.—LLOYD, Howel Wm., B.A. <sup>5</sup>
1813.—WILLIAMS, Thomas <sup>3</sup>	1844.—EVANS, John, B.A., T.C.D. <sup>6</sup>

1857.—JONES, Owen, St. Bees; Deac., 1851; Pr., 1852; C. St. James, Accrington, dioc. Manchester, 1851-53; Ysgeifiog, 1853-55; P. C. Capel Garmon, 1855-57. Author of *Christmas Carols* with music (Hughes, Wrexham). Joint editor, with Rev. Shadrach Pryce, of *Hymnau Hen a Newydd*.

YSPYTTY IFAN.<sup>7</sup>

"HOSPITIUM Sancti Joannis," this Hospice of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem is believed to have been founded about the year 1190 by Ifan Prys, who endowed it with the Manor of Tir Ifan, and obtained for it the privilege of a sanctuary. In 1225 Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, "Princeps de Aberffrau et Dominus Snaudonie," conferred upon it, under the title of "Domus Hospitalis Jerusalem de Dolgenwall<sup>8</sup> et fratres Deo et sancto Joanni ibidem servientes," the rectorial tithes of Ellesmere.<sup>9</sup> This grant was inspected and confirmed in 1316 by Edward II., on which occasion he received a fine of £20 from the hospitallers. Very soon after this Yspytty was made subject to Halston, which became about this time the head quarters of the order in North Wales, for in 1338 we find among their expenses the following items: "For the expenses of the preceptor visiting Dongenwal in due course and staying there to overlook the manor, £10; for the

<sup>1</sup> Vicar of Llanrhaiadr yn Nghimeirch, 1787.

<sup>2</sup> Grandson of Ellis Wynne of Lasynys, the author of *Bardd Cwsg*. Rector of Llanferres, 1813.

<sup>3</sup> Late P. C. of Capel Garmon.

<sup>4</sup> Vicar of Llanyceil, 1842; Vicar of Erbistock, 1852. <sup>5</sup> Resigned, 1844.

<sup>6</sup> R. Machynlleth, 1857; R. Llanllechid, 1862; Archdeacon of Merioneth and Canon Residentiary of Bangor, 1862. A very interesting account of this parish, from his pen, may be seen in the *Cambrian Journal*, i, pp. 61 and 341.

<sup>7</sup> This parish also is fully described in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* for 1860, by Mr. Evans, the present Archdeacon of Merioneth.

<sup>8</sup> *Dolygynwal*, "the vale of the Cynwal," was its earliest name before it had become the seat of the Hospice, or Yspytty.

<sup>9</sup> Pat. 10 Edward II, p. 1, m. 2: "Ad opus pauperum Christi, in puram et perpetuam eleemosynam, prout melius ad nos pertinet de jure patronatus donacio sui presentacio."—Eyton's *Shropshire*, x, p. 247.



stipend of a seneschal there, £1 ; for the stipend of a chaplain there £3 : 6 : 8." Its position near the line of the old Roman road from Conovium to Mons Heriri, and on the subsequent thoroughfare from Chester through Ruthin and Cerrig-y-drudion into Carnarvonshire must have made it a very grateful refuge and resting place to the wayfarer across these mountain wilds, and earned for it the reputation for which Davydd Nanmor, A.D. 1460, extols it—

“Ty, *fal Yspytty Ieuan,*  
Fy ei dai o fwyd i wan.”<sup>1</sup>

It must, however, have lost much of its glory on being reduced to a subject house, though one of its features still remained in all its force, the privilege of sanctuary, a privilege which, according to Sir John Wynn, in his *History of Gwydir*, was greatly abused towards the end of the fifteenth century ; for under cover of its protection a gang of lawless banditti plundered the people with impunity for twenty miles around, until, driven hence by one Meredith ap Evan, the founder of the house of Gwydir, in the reign of Henry VII, they betook themselves to Dinas Mawddwy, where their last exploit, the murder of Baron Owen, led to their extermination.

The notice in the *Taxatio*, A.D. 1291, records its appropriation to the Hospitallers and its consequent immunity from taxation—“*Ecclesia de Doligenwal est app'ata hospitalariis et ideo non taxatur.*” Somewhat earlier than this, during the episcopate of Anian, a compact was entered into between the brethren and the prebendary of Llannefydd for the cure of souls and the ministration of church offices to the parishioners of Llanelwy<sup>2</sup> dwelling in Hiraethog, in return for which the brethren were to receive a third of the tithes, as is more fully shown under Pentrevoelas. In the *Valor* of Henry VIII, under the Commaundry of Halston, we have notices of the manor and of the spiritualities respectively ; thus among the temporalia we find “*Firma vocat' Spytty cum una domo vocat' Dobynywen . . . ac cum perti-cuis fraternitat' vocat' Saynt Johnes Frayry in com' Caern' et Angles' sic dim. Roberto ap Res cl'ico ex assens' conventus xxvi li;*” and under the Spiritualia, “*Fraternit' sive Devoc' div's p'sonar' anti levat per Res ap Owen Frayr Clerk infra Decanat de Tegynge<sup>3</sup> sic dimiss' eidem Res, per annu' iv li.*” After the dissolution of the house, the manor of Tir Ifan with the hospital and lands were granted by Queen Elizabeth to Dr. Elis Price, from whom it passed by lineal descent to Mr.

<sup>1</sup> “St. John's great Hospice feeds not more  
Than Rhys of Tywyn's bounteous store.”

*Arch. Camb.*, 1860.

<sup>2</sup> As the Cathedral was the principal church of the diocese, so all the inhabitants of a diocese were considered to be its parishioners ; and here especially the rectorial tithes were appropriated to it.

<sup>3</sup> A mistake for Rhos and Rhufoniog, as the Hospitallers had no church in Tegengl.

Price Jones, who parted with it to Mr. Hope, by whom it was again sold in 1856 to the Hon. Col. Pennant, now Lord Penrhyn. At the same time Eidda was granted to Thomas Vaughan of Pantglas, by whose descendants it was sold to Lord Mostyn and from him purchased also by the Hon. Col. Pennant, so that the advowson which belonged jointly to the owners of the manors<sup>1</sup> is now vested in him alone. The parish consists of the townships of Tir Eidda in Carnarvonshire, Tir Ifan, Trebrys and Prys ucha, in Denbighshire, with the addition of Gwernihowel in Merionethshire, recently transferred from Corwen. The total area is 9,514 acres, and the rateable value £2,823, population 886. The endowment in 1846 was made up of the tithes of Trebrys, restored to the living by Sir Wm. Myddelton of Chirk Castle about the year 1720, commuted at £56. Queen Anne's Bounty<sup>2</sup> £38 : 13 : 6 ; first endowment, £10 10s.; second ditto, £2 10s.; and the rent of land, £12. This has been augmented through the liberality of the present patron, one of whose first acts was to give £1,000 towards its improvement and towards the building of the vicarage house, erected in 1857; and also by the transfer of £34 out of the rectorial tithes of Corwen, in consideration of the township of Gwernihowel.

The old church, St. John's, which was partly rebuilt in 1790, was in plan a parallelogram with lean-to transepts, formed respectively by the Pantglas Chapel on the north and that of Voelas on the south, and having a portion of the west end partitioned off for a school. In the Pantglas Chapel were alabaster recumbent effigies of "Rhys Fawr ap Meredydd" of Plas Iolyn, the standard-bearer of Henry VII at the battle of Bosworth and leader of the north-west contingent, cut down by Richard's own hand; another of Lowry his wife, and a third of Robert their son, a chaplain to Cardinal Wolsey and lessee of the manor at the time of the dissolution; and in the Voelas Chapel was a brass monumental tablet to Maurice, and to Robert and Anne Gethin (ob. 1598) of Kernioge. On the latter the parents are represented with two sons and an infant behind the father, and four daughters behind the mother; with the legend "Liv too dy & dy to live. Duw a'u rhoddodd Duw a'u dygodd. Trwy Jesy cariad yw'r cwblwl." When this church was taken down in 1858 two niches with pointed arches were discovered in the east wall, and also portions of freestone tombs and window-jambs belonging to the earlier edifice. The east window was an early perpendicular with transoms.

No traces of the Hospice remain, but it is supposed to have stood

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<sup>1</sup> Bishop Griffith tried the question of ecclesiastical jurisdiction; but it was decided against him on the ground that the Prior and Hospital "St. Joannis Jerusol. de Spotty Dolegonwal" had enjoyed the manor and rectory "ut de feodo." (B. 205.)

<sup>2</sup> Queen Anne's Bounty made a grant of £200 in 1714 to meet a rent-charge of £10 10s. per ann., given by Sir G. Williams, Bart., and two subsequent grants in 1791 and 1810. A Parliamentary grant of £600 was added in 1815.

to the west of the church on the space now built over, but formerly the village green.

The new church of St. John the Baptist, consisting of chancel and nave, south porch and west bell gable, in the early English style, was reopened in 1861, the rebuilding having cost £1,556 : 13 : 2, towards which the patron contributed £833 : 3 : 10, the St. Asaph Church Building Society £200, the Incorporated Church Building Society, Bishop Short, and Mr. Wynne of Foelas each £100. The special gifts included altar cloth, linen, and chairs by Lady Louisa and Miss Douglas Pennant. The east window<sup>1</sup> contains medallions, in stained glass illustrative of the Birth, Baptism, Crucifixion, Discourse at Emmaus, Ascension of our Lord. Two windows on the south side, representing the Burial and the Women at the Tomb, were given by Miss Roberts, George Hotel, Bangor; and another is memorial to Griffith and Alice Pierce of Plas Ucha, 1863. The alabaster monuments are now placed at the west end, as also are several monumental slabs found in pulling down the old church. The Gethin tablet occupies its old position on the south wall of the chancel. A tablet to a Mr. Price, 1792, says, "He was the noblest work of God!" The font is new and hexagonal in form. Outside are some steps which probably led to an ancient crypt.

The "National School" was built in 1857. It has no endowment, though it was once believed to have one of £10 per annum, which however was denied by Lord Mostyn's agent and said to be only a voluntary gift.<sup>2</sup>

There are two "Almshouses," built about the end of the seventeenth century; one in Tre-eidda, by Mrs. Catharine Vaughan of Pantglas, and the other in Tir Ifan by Captain Richard Vaughan, a knight of Windsor, who also endowed them with the interest of £200, which is invested in the farm of Dolydd Machno.

Lost, a bequest of ten shillings per annum, charged on Tynycornal by John Edwards, who died in 1773.

Among the eminent men connected in times past with this parish may be enumerated, in addition to the already named Rhys Fawr, Robert ap Rhys, his son, and Dr. Elis Price, his grandson, Captain Thomas Price, son of the last named, a distinguished poet and the companion in arms of another poet, Captain William Myddelton, the first translator of the Psalms into Welsh metre, ob. 1610; Sir Richard Lloyd of Dulasau, Chief Justice of one of the North Wales Circuits, and Walter Davies, the eminent Welsh scholar, who was vicar from 1799 to 1850.

Local names of interest, as connected with the peculiar history of the place, are Dinas Noddfa and Rhyw Sant.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES AND VICARS.

1679.—EDWARDS, Richard<sup>3</sup>

— PARRY, Hugh

<sup>1</sup> The gift of Mrs. Jones, Glantegid, Bala.

<sup>2</sup> Charity Report, 1837.

<sup>3</sup> R. Gwytherin, 1684.



1716.—PARRY, Stephen  
 1740.—ANWYL, Lewis<sup>1</sup>  
 1747.—TURNER, Lewis, B.A.  
 1751.—JONES, Joseph  
 1783.—PRICE, Peter

1799.—DAVIES, Walter, B.A.<sup>2</sup>  
 1850.—OWEN, Richard  
 1854.—MORGAN, John<sup>3</sup>  
 1864.—PRYCE, Shadrach, B.A.<sup>4</sup>

1867.—LLOYD, William, St. Bees; Deacon, 1864; Pr., 1865; Curate of Bangor, 1864-67.

<sup>1</sup> V. Abergele, 1742. Author of *Y Nefawl Ganllaw*, *Myfyrdodau Wythnosol*, *Cyngor yr Athraw*, etc., and translator of Archbishop Synge's *Catechism*.

<sup>2</sup> R. Llanwyddelan, 1803; R. Manafon, 1807; V. Llanrhaiadr, 1837. His works have recently been published under the title, "Gwaith Gwallter Mechain", edited by D. Silvan Evans, B.D. Spurrell, Caerfyrddin, 1868.

<sup>3</sup> P. C. Glanogwen, dioc. Bangor, 1864.

<sup>4</sup> H. M. Inspector of Schools, 1867; translator of Dean Goodwin's *Guide to the Parish Church*, and joint editor, with the Rev. Owen Jones of Pentrevoelas, of *Hymnau Hen a Newydd*.

## THE DEANERY OF MOLD.

THIS deanery has been formed by the subdivision in 1844 of the deanery of Bromfield into those of Mold and Wrexham, and by the transfer to it in 1849 of the Ancient Peculiar of Hawarden. It embraces the following parishes and district churches :—

Hawarden with its Chapelries of Broughton, Buckley, Penmynydd,  
and Sealand.

	1535.	1291.
Hope or Estyn	} Mold Deanery	} Maelor
Llanfynydd		
Mold		
Nerquis		
Tryddyn		
Bistre	} Bromfield and Yale	} Yale and 'Stratalyn
Gwernaffield		
Pontbleiddyn		
Llanarmon		
Erryrys		
Llandegla		
Bryneglwys		
Llanferras		

### HAWARDEN.

THIS name, the “Haordine” of Domesday, is probably the Saxonised form of an earlier British one, such as “Y Garthddin,” *i. e.* the hill fort on the projecting ridge, representing its position from a military point of view;<sup>1</sup> whilst the Welsh name still in use, *viz.* “Penarlag” represents its physical aspect as the hill or promontory above the lag, lach, or lake, which at no very distant period covered the low lands of Saltney and the Rosset, as is still implied in the name of the “Lache-eyes”, or islets of the lake, near Broughton.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Another name very similar to this is Shrawardine, near Shrewsbury; but in the absence of a more definite etymology, it, too, may own a similar derivation, and be a corruption of “Esgair-Ardin.”

<sup>2</sup> Other forms of the name occur, as “Penard-halawg” and “Penar-lweh,” but they all indicate the same physical character. This last, moreover, may have suggested the name of “Barkloughley Castle” to Shakespeare in his *King Richard II.*

The parish comprises sixteen townships, viz. Hawarden, Broadlane, Mancot, Aston, Shotton, Pentrehobin (generally written "Pentrobin") Moor, Rake, Manor, Bannel, Bretton, Broughton, Ewloe Wood, Ewloe Town, Saltney and Sealand, embracing an area of 17,281 acres of the rateable value of £52,396 10s., and a population of 8,500, for whom in addition to the parish church spiritual provision has been made by the erection of churches, or chapels of ease, at Buckley in Ewloe township, Broughton, Pentrobin, and Sealand.

Its ecclesiastical history is one of great antiquity and interest. The earliest founder of a Christian church here appears to have been "Deiniol,"<sup>1</sup> a member of the famous monastery of Bangor-is-y-coed, over which the celebrated Dunawd or Dinoth at one time presided, and himself a scholar of great reputation for holiness, being styled in the Triads one of the three "Gwynvebydd" or holy men of the Isle of Britain. A place still called "Daniel's Ash" may be the very spot where he gathered his disciples round him, as was the case at Onnen Asa in Englefield, and as is commemorated elsewhere in the names of crosses and wells. S. Deiniol is also handed down as the founder of the churches of Worthenbury and Marchwail and of the monastery at Bangor in Carnarvon, which was subsequently erected into an episcopal see. When the church was built upon its present site, a small chapel in it seems to have been appropriated to Daniel's Ash, probably as a memorial of that earlier time. Later on we meet with an old legend which states that about the middle of the tenth century, A.D. 946, the Rood or cross having fallen upon the head of Lady Trawst, the Castellain's wife, was thrown by some Jews into the river Dee, and washed by the tide on to a small sandbank near the town of Chester, thence called the Roodeye, or Islet of the Cross. A century and a half later we find the existence of a church here notified in Domesday, "Haordine, ibi ecclesia ad quam pertinet, &c."

Some years later, *i. e.*, A.D. 1093, Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, granted a tenth, or tithe, of Haurdina, of Colesul and of Bissopstred (Bistre) to the monks of St. Werburgh in Chester. This grant was subsequently renewed by Ralph, Baron of Montalt, the earl's nephew, who added to it the Church of Neston. The Church and Manor of Neston, it seems, had been alienated some time before from the Barons of Halton to the Barons of Montalt or Mold, and in the reign of King Stephen, Leucha, the widow of Robert de Montalt,<sup>2</sup> bestowed it upon St. Werburgh's Abbey, c. 1180; but Roger de Montalt, in 1209, refused to recognize the grant, took possession of the church with an armed force, and succeeded in presenting Radulph de Montalt to the living. The dispute was finally compromised by the Baron restoring

<sup>1</sup> A Welsh form of Daniel.

<sup>2</sup> "Robert de Montalt granted to the monks of Basingwerk, Saltney Marsh for pasturage; and also gave them the same privilege in Hawarden, with the liberty of cutting rushes for thatching their buildings."—Pennant, *Tours in Wales*, i, p. 43.



Neston to the Abbey, and by the monks giving up to him the Manor of Brocton (Bretton),<sup>1</sup> the chapelle or tenement of Sponue,<sup>2</sup> and the resignation of the tenths of Hawarden to the rectors thereof for ever.<sup>3</sup> Since this time the rectors have enjoyed the undisputed right to the tithes of the whole parish. They also enjoyed the privileges of a Peculiar, being exempt from the jurisdiction of any bishop, and themselves exercising all episcopal powers save those of confirmation and ordination, granting licenses, proving wills, and having their own courts and proctors. The seal of the court, which used to be held in the eastern bay of the chancel aisle, the present vestry, represents "Daniel in the lion's den," with the legend "Sigillum Peculiaris et exemptæ iuris dictionis de Hawarden." An attempt indeed was made after the Restoration, in 1664, by the Ecclesiastical Court of Chester to exercise authority over this church, but it was successfully resisted and not renewed. The rite of confirmation was administered by invited bishops, and latterly by the Bishops of St. Asaph; until the year 1849, when by an order in council, dated July 30th, the Peculiar with its chapelries was attached to the diocese of St. Asaph, and so deprived of its exemption and other special privileges, save only the power of granting marriage licenses, which it still retains. Some ground for the above claim on the part of Chester may be found in the circumstance that in the *Taxatio* of 1291 "Ecclia de Haworthin £13 : 6 : 8, dec. £1 : 6 : 8," is returned locally under that archdeaconry and rural deanery; Achidiaconait' Cestr; Decanatus Cestr." But local, and even diocesan arrangements were entirely superseded by the privileges and exemptions which the Pope gave in some places, as here; and at the Reformation, by an oversight, these peculiars were not restored to the jurisdiction of the diocesan, but remained under the sovereign, or under such other person as by custom or purchase obtained the right of superintendence.<sup>4</sup> The value of the rectory at the time of the Reformation, according to the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, was £66 : 6 : 5½; one hundred and fifty years later, 1684, it had increased in value to about £200 a year; and in another hundred years, 1770, it reached £834 : 14 : 3. The enclosure of Saltney Marsh, Warren Mountain, and Sealand increased its value to so great an extent that in 1830 the tithes were returned as worth £3,286;<sup>5</sup> but their present commuted

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<sup>1</sup> "When Henry VIII endowed his new see of Chester, he granted to it, *inter alia*, some lands in Mancote, Hawarden, and other places, which had previously been the property of the dissolved Nunnery of Chester. These lands were in 1546 restored to the Crown, in exchange for others; and there are some lands in Bretton said to be still held under the Crown, perhaps the identical ones."—G. N. G.

<sup>2</sup> In the township and ecclesiastical district of Bistre in Mold.

<sup>3</sup> This arrangement was ratified and confirmed by Popes Honorius III and Clement IV.

<sup>4</sup> Hook's *Church Dictionary*.

<sup>5</sup> At this time the rector supported three curates, and shared full one half of the expenses of five National and three Sunday Schools: *i. e.* 1834.

value is £2,800. The rector has in addition 106 acres of glebe land, half of which was obtained through the above mentioned enclosures ; and a house which was repaired in 1732, and again improved by rector Neville Grenville at an outlay of £5,000. The gardens are very fine and extensive. Patron, Sir Stephen Richard Glynne, Bart.

The church has two dedication festivals, the one on December 10th, St. Deiniol, and the other on the Sunday after Holy Cross day, Sept. 14th.<sup>1</sup> The ground plan consists of a chancel with south aisle, a central tower, north and south quasi transepts, not projecting beyond the line of the aisles, and nave with blind clerestory and two aisles. In 1632 and 1638 alterations and repairs were made in the roof ; a great ringing of bells ushered in the Restoration ; the bells themselves, which are first noticed as existing here in 1563, being five in number, were sold in 1742<sup>2</sup> for £262, and this sum, together with £365 19s. additional, was paid to Mr. Abel Rudhall of Gloucester for six new ones.<sup>3</sup> In 1764 the nave and aisles were newly pewed, in lieu of the old benches which had previously occupied them ; and also paved with flags in place of the rushes that used to be strewn along the floor ; a gallery at the west end removed, and at the same time "the walls and pillars neatly plastered, the roofs painted, and the windows enlarged, to admit a proper proportion of light." These alterations, which were effected at a cost of £700, defrayed by the trustees, under the River Dee Act, completely changed the character of the building. In 1816 Mr. Dundas, the owner of Aston, offered to give up to the parish, in order to provide more accommodation, the Whitley chancel,<sup>4</sup> together with a donation of £100, on the condition that the parish would rebuild it and defray the remainder of the cost out of the proceeds of the sale of pews therein ; and in the following year a sum of £1,416 was expended upon this and other repairs and alterations. Sir S. R. Glynne, "the patron," repaired the roof, walls, and pavement, rebuilt the east end and part of the north side of the chancel and put new pews therein," at a cost of £471 4s. The parishioners "removed, repaired, fitted up, and

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<sup>1</sup> This probably had a reference to the local legend of the Roodeye as well as to its proper object, the discovery of the holy cross by the Empress Helena.

<sup>2</sup> They had been broken in 1741 at a great rejoicing for the birth of a son and heir to the Castle.

<sup>3</sup> These are inscribed respectively : 1. "Peace and good neighbourhood. A. R., 1742." 2. "Prosperity to all our benefactors. A. R., 1742." 3. "Prosperity to this parish. A. R., 1742."

4. "I to the church the living call,

And to the grave do summon all. A. R., 1742."

5. "George Hope, Esq., Ch. Warden ; Tho. Fox, Sidesman. A. R., 1742."

6. "Abell Rudhall of Gloucester cast us all. A. R., 1742."

<sup>4</sup> The eastern bay of the chancel aisle, now forming the vestry and formerly the consistory court, was so called from having once belonged to the Whitleys, of Aston Hall.

floored the altar ; made a gallery behind it for the schools ; enlarged the reading desk and fixed the pulpit, ceiled the nave, and put a new roof on the consistorial court," at an outlay of £452 : 3 : 9 ; and the like amount was further spent on "rebuilding the south wall of the Whitley chancel, and erecting new windows, doors, roof, floor, and pews." At this time the old rood screen was removed, the loft having been approached from the outside ; the font, which had been purchased in 1764, transferred to a baptistry at the east end ; and a new east window containing the arms of the Glynnnes, Nevilles, and Legges substituted for the older one, which had fragments of glass with the arms of Man. In 1810 an organ was bought by subscription for £248, and a gallery erected for it under the west window ; in 1825 this gallery was further enlarged, and in 1836 the organ was replaced by a new one. About the years 1855-6 extensive improvements were carried out under the care of Mr. Harrison of Chester, when open stalls in solid oak were substituted for the pews which had filled the nave ; the chancel also resealed with carved oak stalls, and several windows filled with stained glass ; and the whole edifice brought back to a more ecclesiastical type. This, however, had hardly been completed when a disastrous fire occurred on the night of Oct. 29th, 1857. The roofs of the chancel, nave and side aisles, the organ gallery, pulpit, desk, lectern, screen and font were entirely destroyed. The new seats, however, of the chancel and the Whitley chancel, and the stained glass were but little damaged, whilst the tower and clock remained uninjured ; but of the nave and aisles nothing remained save the shell, and the two iron pillars which supported the gallery. The damage done was about £4,000 ; but the most painful part is that it must evidently have been the work of an incendiary, the church having been set on fire in two distinct places, viz. in the chancel and under the west gallery.

The work of rebuilding was at once taken in hand, and after a very skilful restoration from the plans of Mr. G. Gilbert Scott it was reopened on July 14th, 1859.<sup>2</sup> The principal features of the present building internally are (1) the chancel, which has a reredos of encaustic tiles about to be replaced with one of superior design, a memorial from parishioners and friends to the late rector, Henry Glynnne ; sedilia and piscina on south side ; the roof panneled in quatrefoil divisions, like that of St. Asaph Cathedral. The new organ, bought to replace the one destroyed by the fire, stands in a chamber erected for it in 1859. The east window contains stained glass illustrative of the Birth, Crucifixion, and Resurrection of our Lord, with Latin texts, and is a memorial to Sir Stephen Glynnne, 1815, from his surviving children. A window on the north side, representing our Lord with

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<sup>1</sup> This arose from the sale of pews, £211 4s. ; sale of old lead, £45 19s. ; Mr. Dundas, £100 ; and the Rector, £95.

<sup>2</sup> The cost of this restoration was about £7,000, raised partly by voluntary rate, but chiefly by contributions of landowners and others.



the sisters of Bethany, teaching humility by the example of little children, and ascending to heaven, is in memory of Lavinia, wife of Henry Glynne, 1850, and Catherine, their daughter, 1854. (2) The Whitley chancel, which is partially screened off for the consistory court and vestry, has its east window of three lights illustrative of the text, "Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden," &c., and is in memorial of Capt. C. J. Whitley Deans-Dundas of Aston Hall, formerly M.P. for Flint, ob. 1856; and the window on the south a floral design to illustrate the text "I am the true vine." Two other stained windows on the same side of this aisle are memorial, respectively, to "Mary, widow of Sir S. R. Glynne, 1854, and her brother George Neville Grenville, rector of this parish and dean of Windsor," who died the same year, representing the Transfiguration, the Good Samaritan, and the Raising of Dorcas; and to "Charles and Mary Davison of Shotton," 1852, illustrating Peter's confession of our Lord, Christ blessing little children, and the Magdalen. (3) Under the tower on the north side stands the pulpit, richly carved in Caen stone, supported on marble columns, and on the south the prayer desk, formed of an elaborately carved old bench end enriched with scrolls, flowers, and the arms of Man; and a facsimile reproduction of the same. The pillars which support the tower are very massive, and the tower itself is surmounted by a low spire of wood covered with lead, added 1857. (4) North of the tower stands the Crutchley Chapel, formerly attaching to Daniel's Ash, already noticed and mentioned as early as 1478, under the name of "S'ti Danielis de Hawardyn." In it still stands an ancient piscina, as also in the Whitley chancel. (5) The nave has a handsome open roof of oak, and is furnished with open seats of the same material with carved ends. The eagle lectern is also of oak, and the font, an octagonal with inlaid panels, stands on a pediment with detached marble pillars. The western door is of the Tudor period, as is also most of the other early work, bearing testimony like many of the neighbouring churches to the restoring hand of the Stanleys, who succeeded to the Lordship of Mold and retained it till the time of the Commonwealth. The porch stands on the south side, and there are also other entrances into the north aisle and into the south chancel respectively. Among the monuments in the church may be mentioned some to the Ravenscrofts of Broadlane (now Hawarden Castle), 1592 and 1698; rectors, Price, 1683; Williams, 1769; and Crewe, 1813; Col. Whitley, 1697; and Mr. Boydell, the artist, 1795.

The communion plate, consisting of two flagons, two chalices, two patens, and a large alms dish, all of silver gilt, were the gift of Sir John Glynne and Honora, his wife, in 1739. These were stolen from the vestry on the night of April 13th, 1821, and afterwards found beaten quite flat and buried in the bank of the river near the higher Ferry; but the thief was never discovered. It was again stolen in 1835 and never recovered. It was replaced soon after by the present handsome silver gilt plate. The churchyard was enlarged in 1859. The old churchyard cross, noticed as existing in 1663, has disappeared.

"The grammar-school" owes its foundation to Mr. George Ledshaw, who in 1606 bequeathed £300 for the erection and maintenance of a grammar school for ever in the west corner of the churchyard. The school was accordingly built 5th Jacobi, 1608, at a cost of £50, taken out of the principal, but soon afterwards replaced; and in 1773 augmented with another £50 by the River Dee Company. The interest of these sums and of the appropriated benefactions of Ralph Brereton £279 : 2 : 1 and of Sidney Whitley £7 : 16 : 5 (Reduced 3 per Cents.)<sup>1</sup> together with the residence built in 1813 at a cost of £600, form the present endowment. The education embraces the English language, writing and arithmetic, and if desired Latin and Greek. Among the masters have been the able but eccentric Mr. Thos. Chaloner, who was at one time head master of Ruthin and of Shrewsbury, from the latter of which he was ejected by the Committee of Sequestrators; Mr. Thomas Newbury, a professor of mathematics at St. Petersburg, appointed in 1768, and succeeded in 1778 by Mr. Richard Willett, who published in 1822 a useful *History of the Parish*. The present master is Mr. George Wilkinson.

The general charities embrace the following items:—

1. Charlotte *Whitley*, 1695, interest of £250 : 13 : 8 Consols for clothing poor old widows, per Charity Commissioners.

2. Edward *Bryan*, N. D., the Rake Croft, £15 5s. per annum; William *Lache*, 1659, charge on the Warren, Saltney, £4; Mineral dividend, £3 : 2 : 8, for clothing for the poor, flannel, &c.

3. *Harden*, £200 for the poor generally, especially the aged, at the rector's discretion.

4. Mrs. *Minshull*, interest of £213 : 12 : 4 Consols for yearly grants to six poor widows in Hawarden and Mancot townships, per Charity Commissioners.

For the poor of Broughton township—

1. *Shore*, 1677, rent-charge on Middle Rake Hay, £2.

2. Randle *Bingley*, 1698, charge on Leckhampton farm, £5.

The following were expended in building the poor-house: £20 each bequeathed by Evan Ambrose, Elizabeth Booth, and Catherine Walsh; and £10 each by Mrs. Dorothy Hope and widow Lache, together with a sum of £15 saved out of the forfeitures on the Act for burying in woollen, making in all £95.

5. *Lost*.—1681, Margaret Ravenscroft, £50; 1703, Rev. Mr. Robinson, £50; N. D., Major Evatt, £50, invested in the Halkin Turnpike Trust, which turned out a failure; 1636, John Anyan, £60; 1694, Dorothy Ravenscroft, £50; 1703, George Dean, £5; 1720, John Potter, £5; 1742, Gaynor Bennett, £110, being residue of his effects; 1786, Joseph Johnson, £5.

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<sup>1</sup> R. B. in 1630 left £250 as a bread charity, and S. W. £20, in 1710, for widows; but these were diverted by law for the benefit of the school.

## RECTORS.

- c. 1180.—William de Montalt  
 1200.—Ralph de Montalt  
 1537.—POOL, Randolph<sup>1</sup>  
 1561.—JACKSON, Thomas  
 1605.—PHILLIPS, John, D.D.<sup>2</sup>  
 1633.—DRAYCOTT, Thomas, A.M.  
 1636.—BROWNE, Robert, A.M.  
 1638.—PASLEY, Christopher, D.D.  
 164.—BOLD, Edward<sup>3</sup>  
 1655.—FFOGGE, Laurence, D.D.<sup>4</sup>  
 1664.—FFOGGE, Orlando, A.M.<sup>5</sup>  
 1872.—GLADSTONE, Stephen Edward, A.M., Christ Church, Oxford;  
 Second Class Final Classical School and B.A., 1866, Deacon, 1868;  
 Pr. 1869; Assistant Curate of St. Mary-the-Less, Lambeth, 1868-72.<sup>13</sup>
- 1666.—PRICE, John, D.D.<sup>6</sup>  
 1685.—PERCIVAL, Beaumont, D.D.  
 1714.—GARDINER, B., L.L.D.<sup>7</sup>  
 1726.—GLYNNE, Francis  
 1728.—FLETCHER, John, A.M.<sup>8</sup>  
 1742.—WILLIAMS, Richard, A.M.  
 1770.—GLYNNE, Stephen, A.M.<sup>9</sup>  
 1780.—CREWE, Randolph, LL.B.<sup>10</sup>  
 1814.—NEVILLE (Grenville) G.,  
 A.M.<sup>11</sup>  
 1834.—GLYNNE, Henry, A.M.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>1</sup> R. Neston; S. R. Llandrillo in Edeirnion; Prebendary of Hereford.

<sup>2</sup> Dean of Cleveland; Bishop of Man, 1605. He is said to have translated the Bible and Prayer Book into Manx; but the MS. does not appear to have been printed. He was notable for preaching, charity, and hospitality, and was buried in St. German's Cathedral, 1633.

<sup>3</sup> "This is to certify that Edward Bold, Clerk, late R. of Hawarden, was buried and interred in the parish church of Hawarden aforesaid, in the chauncell, 5th January, 1655. John Glendole, minister, who p'ched at his funerall; John Robinson, assistant to Mr. Edward Bold." (Par. Registers.)

<sup>4</sup> He was ejected from this for nonconformity, but afterwards conformed; and in a letter to Calamy he states that he was one of the first to restore the Liturgy in his church. Some entries in the wardens' accounts for this period testify to the alacrity with which the parishioners returned to the old order and services. Dr. Ffogge published his *Theologiæ Schema* in 1712, and was appointed Dean of Chester in 1718.

<sup>5</sup> Brother of the last.

<sup>6</sup> Of Rhiwlas; Fellow of New College, Oxford; Prebendary of Llanfair, 1682. B. Willis (i, p. 214) transcribes his epitaph, from which it appears that he began life as a soldier, under his brother.

<sup>7</sup> Warden of All Souls', 1702; Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, 1712.

<sup>8</sup> R. Bangor is y Coed.

<sup>9</sup> Afterwards Sir Stephen Glynne, Bart.

<sup>10</sup> R. Warmingham.

<sup>11</sup> Master of Magdalen College, Cambridge, 1813; Dean of Windsor, 1846. Mr. Neville took the additional name of Grenville in 1825. He compiled a very full and interesting account of this parish, which still remains in — manuscript volumes. To it I am indebted for a great portion of the information epitomised in this account, and to Sir R. Glynne for the ready permission to peruse it.

<sup>12</sup> Brother of the present Baronet. He was of Christ Church, Oxford, and at one time sat in Parliament for the Flint Boroughs. Appointed Rural Dean of Mold, 1851; Hon. Canon of St. Asaph, 1855; and for many years represented the Chapter in Convocation.

<sup>13</sup> Nephew of the present Baronet and son of the Premier.



## ST. MATTHEW'S, BUCKLEY.

THIS was not only the first built of the chapels of ease to the mother church of Hawarden, but also with St. Mary's, Broughton, the pioneer of that great work which began in this diocese with the establishment of the Diocesan Church Building Society about fifteen years later, and has continued with such unabated vigour down to the present time.

The foundation stone was laid on the 14th December, 1821, by Sir Stephen Richard Glynne and Henry Glynne his brother; G. Neville Grenville being rector and ordinary, and John Husband, B.A., the first curate. The church, which is in the modern Gothic style, with two light foliated windows in the nave and battlemented walls, consists of nave and sacrarium with a western tower, about 90 feet high, the battlements of which are perforated. Two vestries stand at the north and south-east angles respectively,<sup>1</sup> and a small organ gallery at the west end is entered from the tower. The sacrarium contains a credence and a sedile; and the east window, a perpendicular of five lights, is filled with stained glass in dark but fading colours, the subject being the Crucifixion. The nave, which is calculated to accommodate 600, has a flat wide roof ceiled in wood; the pulpit, which was formerly entered from the north-east vestry, now stands against the chancel arch, and the organ occupies the south-east corner. The font, which is octagonal and painted in colours, was brought hither from St. John's, Penmynydd. The plans were those of Mr. John Oates, and the cost £4,000 from the Parliamentary grant.

The consecration took place on the 25th Sept. 1822, the officiating prelate being Bishop Luxmore of St. Asaph. In 1845 a further sum of £533 was spent on alterations and improvements.

In 1818, three years before the erection of the church, three acres of land were given up on the mountain by the Lord of the Manor, Mr. P. B. Davies Cooke, and by the manorial court without levy of fine, as a site for a parsonage house, and a subscription of nearly £2,000<sup>2</sup> raised for building it and the schools.

The house was further enlarged in 1855, and to the schools also have been added, in 1849, houses for master and mistress, and infant school and a library.

## CURATES IN CHARGE.

1820.—HUSBAND, John, B.A.<sup>3</sup>    1822.—CROMPTON, Samuel G., B.A.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The latter was intended for a baptistery.

<sup>2</sup> Among the subscribers were the Prince Regent, £200; Hon. Lady Glynne, £120; Hon. and Rev. G. Neville Grenville, £100; collection after sermon by the Bishop of St. Asaph, £98:4:7; Mr. Davies Cooke, £52; Lord Crewe's trustees and National Society, each £50.

<sup>3</sup> Late Fellow of Magdalen College, Cambridge; C. Neston, 1822; R. Selatyn, 1853.

<sup>4</sup> Jesus College, Cambridge; P. C. Charlton in Snaith, 1839.

1839.—BELLAIRS, H. W., M.A.<sup>1</sup>      1857.—LEE, THOS. JONES, M.A.<sup>3</sup>  
 1840.—FFOULKES, H. P., M.A.<sup>2</sup>      1861.—BELLAIRS, CHARLES, B.A.<sup>4</sup>  
 1867.—ISAAC, EDWARD WHITMORE, B.A.<sup>5</sup>

1871.—STEPHENSON, CHARLES, M.A., Pembroke College, Cambridge;  
 Jun. Opt. 1850; Deacon, 1851; Priest, 1852; Curate of Kentish  
 Town Chapel, London, 1856; Waterden with Egmere, Norfolk, 1867.

### ST. MARY'S, BROUGHTON.

THIS church, consecrated on Sept. 8th, 1824, consists of a nave with a battlemented western tower, the base of which forms the principal entrance, a small sacarium at the east end, with vestry on the south side; and a western gallery.<sup>6</sup> The chancel window of three lights is filled with stained glass in memory of "Lavinia, wife of Henry Glynne," rector of the parish, and represents in the central light our Lord in glory, and in the side compartments the Adoration of the Magi and the Presentation in the Temple. A sedile occupies the south wall; and on the north side stands a credence, the support of which was originally a piscina, and afterwards used as a font in an old church in Lincolnshire, on the rebuilding of which it was brought hither for its present use. A large quantity of carved oak of Elizabethan and Jacobean workmanship has been collected by the last two rectors of Hawarden and worked up into the panels of the pulpit, desk, gallery, and vestry door. Much of it is of a domestic character; but the panels of the pulpit bear figures of our Lord, Faith, and Charity, and a representation of the Crucifixion, and the figure of a monk forms part of the prayer desk. The font is octagonal, with foliated panels and a decorated canopy. Mr. Legge, during his curacy, presented a barrel organ and the interest of £10 for the player; it has since then, however, been superseded by a harmonium. An inscription on the gallery further records that the altar plate was given by Richard Lord Braybrooke, Lady Charlotte, and the Hon. Catherine Neville, and the altar cloth and cushions by the Countess Dowager of Dartmouth and Lady Caroline Legge. Plans have been prepared for a new chancel, which is to have a reredos, a north chamber for an organ, and a panelled and coloured roof, and there are £200 promised for that purpose.

<sup>1</sup> Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools, 1844. Author of *The Church and the School*.

<sup>2</sup> R. Llandyssil, 1857; Archdeacon of Montgomery and Canon Residentiary of St. Asaph, 1861.

<sup>3</sup> V. Christ Church, Luton, 1863. Author of some pamphlets and sermons.

<sup>4</sup> V. Sutton in Ashfield, 1867.

<sup>5</sup> V. Dewsbury, 1871.

<sup>6</sup> The cost was £1,100.

The school was erected in 1825 and enlarged in 1845, at an outlay of £350.

The parsonage house, erected in 1837, was also enlarged in 1853 at an outlay of £500.

Till the year 1826 the church was served by the curates of the mother church, but since that year there have been the following

#### CURATES IN CHARGE.

1826.—BLOMFIELD, G. B., B.A.<sup>1</sup> 1845.—HARRIS, Fred. Wm., M.A.<sup>4</sup>

1827.—LEGGE, Hon. H. G., B.A.<sup>2</sup> 1853.—AUSTIN, Edward, M.A.<sup>5</sup>

1831.—HILL, J. Wilbraham, M.A.<sup>3</sup> 1870.—EVANS, W. Howell, M.A.<sup>6</sup>

1872.—HAYES, Thomas, M.A., Christ Church, Oxford ; third class Mod. in Litt. Hum. ; Deac., 1863 ; Pr., 1864 ; curate of St. Olave's, Exeter, 1863 ; Bamber Bridge, 1864 ; Markham Clinton, 1867 ; So-  
rayingham, 1870 ; P. C. Cantley with Dowbiggin, 1871.

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#### ST. JOHN'S, PENMYNYDD.

THIS church, built by Sir S. R. Glynne at a cost of £3,000, was consecrated on the 22nd July, 1843 ; the sermon on the occasion being preached by Dr. Hook, vicar of Leeds, on "Mutual forbearance in things indifferent." The plan consists of chancel with south vestry, and nave with west gallery, the main entrance lying through the base of the western tower, which is surmounted by a spire. The style is late pointed, elaborately coloured, and painted. The chancel is divided from the nave by gates and a richly coloured screen, the lower compartments of which are filled with paintings in panel of the Twelve Apostles ; the altar also, which is of stone, has in its five lancet panels portraits of our Lord and the Four Evangelists. The roof principals are supported by projecting corbels with angels, whilst the whole is set off with elaborate ornamentation ; indeed, a profusion of rich colouring and painting, the amateur work of Mr. Troughton, a former curate, is one of the features of this church.

The series of paintings covering the walls of the nave and the spaces above the chancel arch and the east window embraces the Annunciation, Nativity, Adoration, Presentation in the Temple, Baptism, Marriage at Cana, Healing the Sick and Blind, Raising Jairus' Daughter,

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<sup>1</sup> Canon Residentiary of Chester Cathedral and R. Tattenhall, 1827 ; R. Stevenage, 1834. Author of *Sermons adapted to Country Congregations*, 3 vols.

<sup>2</sup> Fellow of All Souls', Oxon. ; V. Lewisham, 1831.

<sup>3</sup> P. C. Waverton, 1844. Author of various Sermons and Articles.

<sup>4</sup> V. Medmenham, 1855.

<sup>5</sup> V. Broad Hempston, 1870.

<sup>6</sup> V. Oswestry, 1872.



Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, and Last Judgment. The lancet windows too have each a central medallion in illustration of the Passion, Cross, and Resurrection ; and are memorial to "Lavinia, wife of Henry Glynne, rector of the parish," whilst that in the east window is of the patron saint, St. John Baptist. A piscina and sedile are placed in the south side of the chancel, which has an entrance to the vestry, from which also the entrance lies to the pulpit, which is of stone and circular, with panels painted to illustrate the Beatitudes. Two angels support the lights on the oak prayer desk, and the open seats in the nave terminate in carved finials. The gallery of stone is supported by pointed arches, having the arms of the Glynnes and others on the spandrels, and faced with an arcade of similar character. Within this gallery stands a small organ, behind which is a wall-painting of the Expulsion from the Garden, and beneath it is the baptistry, the font being transitional Norman surmounted by a canopy. Externally, the tower is set off by pinnacles, and the whole length of the walls with an effective corbel table. The seats are free and unappropriated, the men sitting on the north side, and the women on the south. A school was added in 1844 at an outlay of £450, and a parsonage in 1846 at a cost of £1,500.

#### CURATES IN CHARGE.

1843.—TROUGHTON, John Edward, M.A. ; R. Aberhafesp, 1864.

1864.—DAVIES, Edward Hugh, M.A. ; P. C. Dwygyfylchi.

1865.—BAINES, Joseph, A.B., Trinity College, Dublin ; Deac., 1860 ; Pr., 1861 ; C. St. Andrew's, Birmingham, 1860 ; Hadleigh, Essex, 1864.

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#### ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S, SEALAND.

THIS was consecrated on the 15th October, 1867, as a chapel of ease to Hawarden, for the accommodation of that part of the parish which lies to the north of the river Dee, and which had been before its enclosure, as its name implies, low marshland washed by the tide ; it comprises above 4,000 acres.

The ground plan comprises chancel with organ chamber on the north side ; nave with south porch ; and on the same side at the junction of nave and chancel a tower, surmounted by a spire, and forming a vestry in its base. The chancel is furnished with credence and sedilia, and has oak stalls for the choir, the roof being relieved with colour. The east window of three lights, early English with geometrical tracery, contains stained glass representing the Crucifixion, and was given by the architect, Mr. Douglas of Chester. The windows of the nave are of two lights with foliations, that at the west end being a double one. The seats are open, save at the west end,

which is furnished with chairs. The pulpit, of freestone, has a sculptured panel to represent our Lord teaching ; and the font, which is octangular and supported on marble pillars, has also its panels filled with emblematic devices. The organ, by Prosser, was bought by subscription at a cost of £130. The font was presented by Sir S. R. Glynne, and the altar cloth worked and given by the Misses Glynne. Appropriate texts are inscribed in different places, *e.g.*, over the chancel arch, the "Gloria in Excelsis ;" over the organ chamber, "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord ;" at the west end, "One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism ;" and over the porch on the outside, "Enter these gates with thanksgiving," and inside, "Go forth in the strength of the Lord God."

The total cost of erection was £2,600 ; the chief part of which was borne by the old River Dee Company, who presented the site and £1,500. The bell, weighing  $8\frac{1}{2}$  cwts., was the gift of the late rector.

There is as yet no parsonage house or school, but from different parts of the district schools are easily accessible at Shotwick, Great Saughall, and Chester.

*Curate in Charge*.—1867. CHIDLOW, Charles, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford ; Third Class in Law and Mod. Hist., 1866 ; Deac., 1866 ; Pr., 1867 ; Curate of St. Mary Magdalene's, Liverpool, 1866.

## HOPE.

THERE are three chief names by which this place has been known : 1. "Llangynfarch," so called after Cynfarch, a saint of the fifth century, who "founded Llangynfarch in Maelor, which was destroyed by the Saxons in the battle of Bangor Orcherd A.D. 603." 2. "Estyn," sometimes written Easton, from the township in which it stands,<sup>1</sup> and 3, "Hope" (or Yr Hôb), from the name of the district of which it is mainly constituted ; one large portion of the parish being called Hope Medachiad, and another Hope Owen. It was also called "East Hope," partly following the above corruption of Estyn into Easton, and partly to distinguish it from its neighbour Northop ; and "Queen Hope" in honour of its having been granted by Edward I to his Queen Eleanor, who lodged here on her way to Carnarvon, where she gave birth to the second Edward, the first English Prince of Wales. The parish is divided by the river Alyn into two parts, that above the river, called Hope Medachiad, comprising the townships of Uwchmynydd, subdivided into Ucha and Isa, Cymmau and Rhanberfedd ; and that below the river those of Hope Owen, Estyn, Shordley, and Caer-gwrle. The total area contains 9,171 acres of the rateable value of £16,634, and a population of 3,515. This, however, is considerably lessened ecclesiastically by the formation of the new parish of Llan-

<sup>1</sup> Hence, probably, the name of "Exestan" Hundred in *Domesday*.

fynydd in 1843 and the erection of an iron church at Cymmau in 1870.

The *Taxatio* of 1291 describes it under "Decanatus de Mahelaur" as divided into two rectorial portions and a vicarage; "Ecclia de Eston taxatur; Porcio Ma'gri David £6, dec. 12s. Porcio Lowelyn Wachant £4, dec. 8s.; et quod alibi (Rector) est beneficiatus Porcio Vicar' £4 non decimatur." In the *Valor* of 26 Henry VIII, 1535, the portions of the sinecure rector and the vicar are given in loco, "Rectoria de Eston valet £10 dec., £1. Vicaria £6:13:4, dec. 13s. 4d.;" the remainder being no doubt included among the revenues of the Hospital of St. John Baptist in Chester,<sup>1</sup> and the Dean and Chapter of Winchester, as rectors of Gresford, to whom they had become severally appropriated.

The ancient method of dividing the tithes was very peculiar, being divided into the four shares as follows: "The three townships above the river are yearly on St. Peter's Day made equal by deducting or adding to them as the year requires, and then the parson of Gresford draws his lot, which draw is all his share. Then the townships below the river are added to the remaining townships above the river, and being made equal according to the above method the parson of Estyn draws two lots. Then the vicar one, then the parson draws one more, and at last the agent for the Hospital of St. John, Chester. The parson's share is two townships and two parts in three of another. The hospital one and a third part of another. The vicar only one. The parson of Gresford's share farmed at £33 per annum."<sup>2</sup> The commuted value is given as £514 to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for the sinecure rectory, £210 18s. the Dean and Chapter of Westminster; £257 4s. Hospital of St. John; £192 18s. Vicar.

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<sup>1</sup> So early as 1311 a portion of the tithes of the church of Hope, in the cantred of Englefield, of the yearly value of ten marcs, belonged to this Hospital, which had been founded by "Randle, Duke of Brittany and Earl of Chester and Richmond, in honour of God, the Virgin, and St. John Baptist, for the sustentation of poore and sillie persons"; and which, according to Tanner, was "formerly a sanctuary, and endowed with great privileges", and was probably the house intended in the *Taxatio*, under the title of "Magister Hospitalis Cestriæ". The mastership was granted, 4 Edward II, to the Prior of Birkhead and his successors; but, from several entries in the Patent Rolls, the appointment seems to have been resumed by the Crown. By a writ, 15 Edward III, the Justice of Chester was directed to take "the lands and rents" thereto belonging into his hands. In 1535 its income was £28:10:4 gross, but only £13:7:10 net. By a survey of the estate belonging to the Corporation of Chester, lying within this parish, made in 1793, it appears that the entire quantity of land was 315 a. 2 r. 30 p., including both the Hospital property and the lands devised to the Corporation by John Lancaster.

<sup>2</sup> MS. Z. c. 1735. The vicar, moreover, received "£3 from the rector for preaching eight sermons."



Out of the rectorial tithes the commissioners have subsequently endowed the district church at Llanfynydd with £349 per annum, and have augmented the vicarial to £267 per annum, besides making an allowance of £100 per annum for a curate. Belonging to the vicarage there are also 16 acres of land at Shordley, and 12½ acres at Rhostyllen, purchased in 1761 with benefactions<sup>1</sup> and a grant to meet them from Q. Anne's Bounty; their present value is £94 per annum. The vicarage house was rebuilt in 1851 at a cost of £800 by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and attached to it are four acres of glebe land. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The plan of the church, St. Cynfarch's, November 14, consists of two equal bodies divided by an arcade of four bays, the chancel being in the north aisle and the easternmost bay of the south having evidently at one time been screened off as a chapel, probably attached to Plas Têg. A fine tower of perpendicular date, with buttresses and battlements, stands at the west end of the north aisle, and is entered from the church by an early pointed arch; the lower portion forms the principal entrance, and the old north door now opens into the vestry. A gallery runs across the west end, and in it stands an organ, presented in 1857 by Mrs. Atcherley, of Cymmau Hall. A few years ago some improvements were made in the fabric by the substitution of Gothic for Hanoverian windows and the removal of a plaster ceiling in the south aisle so as to expose an oak roof of simple pattern. The pulpit is of Jacobean work. The font, a very handsome octagonal one of Caen stone, purchased in 1867, has its panels wrought with the Evangelistic emblems and sacred devices.<sup>2</sup> The older one, a small marble basin presented in 1830, is preserved near the north door.

The east windows are of five lights and four lights respectively, Early Perpendicular, that of the chancel containing fragments of stained glass illustrative of the *Te Deum*. The west window of the south aisle also contains stained glass, and was erected by friends and parishioners, to the memory of the Rev. John Vaughan Lloyd. The central subject represents our Lord, with Moses and Aaron on each side. He is also commemorated by a tablet in the south wall. Other monuments are to the memory of Sir John Trevor, who is represented in ermine, and with his wife, in a kneeling posture, the epitaph being on a detached tablet; to members of the family of Yonge of Brynyorkin 1714-85, now represented by the Conwys of Bodrhyddan; to D. F. Jones, of Cymmau, 1828; and his son, D. F. Atcherley, serjeant-at-law, F.R.S., F.S.A., 1845. The three bells are respectively inscribed "Jesus be our speede 1623," "God save His church 1720," and the founder's name, Ashpool of Wigan, 1793.

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<sup>1</sup> These, amounting to £200, included £100 from Mr. John Wynne of Farm; £20 from Maurice Anwyl, vicar; £10 10s. from Madam Myddelton; and £10 each from Bishops Hare and Tanner, Sir George Wynne, J. R. Stapleton, and Rector Powell.

<sup>2</sup> Cost £24.

An iron School-Church was erected at Cymmau in 1870, at a cost of £215. Services are held in it every Sunday, and a school during the week.

Another school, the National, was erected at Bridge End, near Caergwrle, in 1838 at a cost of £230. Mr. Robert Wynne, the rector 1705-20, left £60, the interest of which was to go towards teaching twelve poor children, and buying books for them; of this sum, in 1750, £2 8s. were given towards teachnig, and 12s. for books.

At "Plas yn Bwl," in Caergwrle, there was formerly an old Chapel, but nothing further is now known of it.

The charities comprise—

1. David *Lloyd* of Nerquis, in 1695, bequeathed a rent-charge of 15s. per annum on Tir-y-fron.

2. Sinecure rectors' charity of £2 10s. towards apprenticing poor boys, £2 for distribution among the poor, and 10s. for teaching one poor boy.

3. Rent-charge on Clomendy, by John Price, 17s. 4d.

4. Rent-charge, by T. Edge, in 1644, on tenement in Rhanberfedd, £1 6s.

5. Rent-charge, by E. Parry, on land in Bromborough, Cheshire, 17s. 4d.

6. Consolidated charities, amounting to £103 10s., were invested in 1750 on the purchase of Menyll in Hartsheath township, comprising about 11 acres. Of this the Mold and Connah's Quay Railway have recently bought six acres at £120 per acre, and the money has been invested in the purchase of fresh land, thereby much improving the income of the charity.

7. Cottage and croft in Shordley, with small allotment.

*Lost*.—1. Sir John Trevor, by will and codicils, 1672-3, bequeathed rooms in Plas Têg Lodge and £6 per annum to a deserving poor man from this parish, to be appointed by the owner of Plas Teg, charged on lands in Hope Owen.

2. Charles *Lloyd*, a rent-charge of £1 4s. per annum.

#### SINECURE RECTORS.

1537.—LLOYD, Richard	1616.—PULESTON, Edward
1557.—PYDLESTON, Hugh <sup>1</sup>	1643.—PULESTON, Richard, D.D. <sup>3</sup>
1569.—ROGERS, Richard, M.A. <sup>2</sup>	1662.—PARRY, John, D.D. <sup>4</sup>
1597.—PYDLESTON, Richard	1666.—PARRY, Benjamin, B.D. <sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Prebendary of Llanfair, 1517; V. Wrexham, 1520; S. R. Llanrhaiadr, 1533; S. R. Cwm, 1547.

<sup>2</sup> Archdeacon of St. Asaph and Bishop Suffragan of Dover; Dean of Canterbury, 1584.

<sup>3</sup> R. Abbotsworthy, Hants.

<sup>4</sup> Son of Edward Parry, Bishop of Killaloe; B.A. Trinity College, Dublin; incorporated at Oxford, Fellow of Jesus College; Prebendary of York; Chaplain to the Duke of Ormond, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; Dean of Christ Church, Dublin, 1665; Bishop of Ossory, 1672.

<sup>5</sup> Brother of the preceding; B.A. of Trinity College, Dublin; incorporated

- 1677.—EDWARDS, John, LL.D.<sup>1</sup> 1750.—HAY, Hon. John, M.A.<sup>4</sup>  
 1685.—LLOYD, Bp. *in com.* 1751.—WORTHINGTON, Wm., D.D.<sup>5</sup>  
 1705.—WYNNE, Robert, A.M.<sup>2</sup> 1774.—SHIPLEY, Bp. *in com.*  
 1720.—JONES, John, B.D. 1789.—THURLOW, Edward South<sup>6</sup>  
 1731.—POWELL, William, D.D.<sup>3</sup> Lapsed in 1848

## VICARS.

- 1537.—BUTLER, William 1729.—JONES, J.  
 1563.—DAVIES, Richard 1731.—ANWYL, Maurice  
 1571.—YONGE, J. 1737.—WYNNE, Evan, M.A.<sup>12</sup>  
 1598.—EDWARDS, William<sup>7</sup> 1757.—EDWARDS, Thomas, M.A.<sup>13</sup>  
 1616.—JONES, John<sup>8</sup> 1765.—LLOYD, Hedd, M.A.<sup>14</sup>  
 1641.—ELLIS, John, A.M.<sup>9</sup> 1778.—WARRINGTON, George<sup>15</sup>  
 1662.—JONES, Henry 1796.—CLOUGH, Thomas, M.A.<sup>16</sup>  
 1667.—PRICHARD, Edward, A.M.<sup>10</sup> 1830.—MOULSDALE, Thos. Gorst,  
 1680.—LLOYD, John, A.M.<sup>11</sup> M.A.<sup>17</sup>  
 1685.—JONES, Michael 1836.—WYATT, Wm., R., M.A.<sup>18</sup>  
 1705.—WYNNE, Gabriel 1836.—MEREDITH, James, B.A.<sup>19</sup>  
 1725.—JONES, William 1848.—LLOYD, J. Vaughan, M.A.

1859.—WILLIAMS, Jeremiah, B.A., Queen's College, Oxford; Deac.,  
 1844; Pr., 1845; C. Eglwys Rhos, 1844; P. C. Pontbleddyn, 1846.

at Jesus College, Oxford; Greek Reader and Fellow of Corpus Christi; Prebendary of Knaresborough in York Cathedral, 1663; Dean of Kilkenny, 1674; Dean of St. Patrick's, 1675; Bishop of Ossory, 1677.

<sup>1</sup> R. Knockin and Llanymynech, 1666; Prebendary of Meliden, 1674; Chancellor of the Diocese, 1683.

<sup>2</sup> Prebendary of Penmynydd in Bangor Cathedral, 1710; R. Llantrisant and Llanddeiniolen.

<sup>3</sup> Dean of St. Asaph.

<sup>4</sup> S. R. Cwm, 1750. Brother of Bishop Drummond. Died same year.

<sup>5</sup> V. Llanyblodwel, 1729-47; S. R. Darowen, 1737-51; V. Llanrhaiadr, 1745; S. R. Llanfor, 1774; chaplain to Bishop Drummond; Prebendary of St. Asaph and of York Cathedrals. For his works, see p. 256.

<sup>6</sup> Nephew of Lord Chancellor Thurlow, who promoted him to this sinecure and also to that of Llandrillo in Edeirnion, 1789. He was also a Prebendary of Norwich Cathedral, and R. Haughton le Spring, and V. Stamfordham in Durham diocese.

<sup>7</sup> S. R. Nannerch, 1600; V. Mold, 1616.

<sup>8</sup> R. Llanddulas, 1611.

<sup>9</sup> R. Llansantffraid Glyn Dyfrdwy, 1587.

<sup>10</sup> V. Llansannan, 1660; R. Llanarmon, D. C., 1662.

<sup>11</sup> Warden of Ruthin, 1682; V. Llanynys, 1683.

<sup>12</sup> V. Llandrillo in Edeirnion, 1731; exchanged, same year, for R. Cerrigy-drudion.

<sup>13</sup> R. Llanwrin, 1765; R. Llanfechain, 1776.

<sup>14</sup> R. Bodfari, 1761; R. Halkin, 1778.

<sup>15</sup> Canon of St. Asaph, 1776; R. Plealey, 1793.

<sup>16</sup> Canon, 1794; R. Denbigh, 1797.

<sup>17</sup> V. Llanfair-Caereinion, 1836.

<sup>18</sup> V. Choral and P. C. Disserth, 1836; V. Moreton, 1860.

<sup>19</sup> V. Abergele, 1848; Canon, 1860.



## LLANFYNYDD.

THIS new district, formed by an order in council out of the parish of Hope, comprises the townships of Uwchmynydd Ucha and Uwchmynydd Isa, with part of Cymmau, and was gazetted the 7th February, 1845. The area attached to it includes 4,100 acres, with a population of 1,135.

The incumbent's stipend from 1843-8 was £80 per annum, paid by the sinecure rector; on whose death and the lapse of the sinecure to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, it was increased in 1848 to £150 per annum; in 1860 tithes to the value of £173, arising from Uwchmynydd ucha, Uwchmynydd isa and Hope Owen were substituted for the previous payment, and in 1868 a further £90 per annum was added. By another subsequent augmentation, the whole of the rectorial tithes have been transferred to it, making the present income £349; in addition to which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have, out of the local funds, erected a rectory house at an outlay of £1,000, and purchased a glebe of seven acres at a cost of £550. The patronage belongs to the Vicar of Hope the mother parish.

The church was consecrated under the name of Christ Church, in October, 1843; it is a plain structure, built at a cost of £650 and calculated to hold 400; designed by Mr. John Lloyd, of Mold, the builder of Bistre, Gwernaffield and Pontbleiddyn. It was repaired and improved by subscription in 1868.

The school-room was built in 1845 at a cost of £120.

*Rector.*—1845.—LLOYD, Thomas Richard, B.A., Jesus College, Oxon; Deacon, 1843; Pr., 1844; Author of *Welsh Carols, Songs of the Land we live in, Essay on Druidism, The "Motherland Series" of Welsh Airs, &c.*

MOLD.<sup>1</sup>

THIS extensive and populous parish, corresponding to the ancient Commote of Ystrad Alun, consisted originally, and for most civil purposes does so still, of the townships of Mold, Broncoed, Rhual (ucha and isa) Llwynegrin, Argoed, Gwysaney, Leeswood, Bistre, Hartsheath, Arddynwent, Nerquis, Treyddyn, Hendrebiffa, and Gwernaffield. Exclusive of Nerquis and Treyddyn, which have been formed from very early times into distinct chapeltries, the area of the other townships is 12,425 a. 1 r. 31 p., of which 11,650 acres are subject to tithes, of the rateable value of £40,974 : 3 : 2, and the population 12,228. But for ecclesiastical purposes new districts have been formed out of it for

<sup>1</sup> A corruption of "Mons Altus" (Norman, "Mont-Hault"), itself a translation of the Welsh name "Gwydd-grug", the high or conspicuous mount.

Bistre, Gwernaffield and Pontbleiddyn ; whereby the townships left to the immediate care of the mother church have been reduced to those of Mold, Broncoed, Rhual and Llwynegryn, and portions of Argoed, Gwysaney and Leeswood, with a population of 5,725.

"Maes Garmon," *i. e.*, "the Field of Germanus," in Rhual is closely connected with one of the earliest and most memorable events in the history of the British church, the mission of Germanus, Bishop of Auxerre, and Lupus, Bishop of Troyes, from the Gallic church, to aid the orthodox Christians of Britain in the Pelagian controversy, about the year A.D. 420. The opposing hosts are said to have met on this field, where the orthodox rushing on impetuously, and shouting "Alleluia" as their war-cry, won the battle, thence called "the Alleluia Victory." "Ffynnon y Gwaed," the Bloody Well, hard by, probably took its name from that occasion ; and in former days a chapel, dedicated to St. Isidore, "Capel Spwdwr," stood near the spot, founded it may be for the singing of masses for the souls of the slain. In 1736 an obelisk was erected on the spot by Mr. Nathanael Griffith of Rhual, with a Latin inscription to commemorate the event.<sup>1</sup> From this time till the *Taxatio* of 1291 we find no intervening ecclesiastical notice, but that record intimates clearly enough that there was some composition or arrangement in force relative to the rectory ; thus "Ecclia de Monte Alto, cu' capella sua de Nerchgws, taxat' rectoria £33 : 6 : 8 *per retrac'oem ut patet in compo't*," Vicaria £10 dec. £1 ; and again "S'ma taxacionis p'dei Decanat' *post moderaco'em ecclie de monte alto*, £70 15s." What the composition may have been further is uncertain ; but in 1318 we find the Bishop of St. Asaph instituting to the rectory on the presentation of Robert de Monte alto.<sup>2</sup> In 1327 the last baron of this name in failure of issue conveyed the lordship to Isabel, Edward II's queen, from whom it reverted to the crown, who in 1337 bestowed the stewardship of Hawarden and Chester, including probably this lordship, upon William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury and Lord of Denbigh, who in the following year, 1338, founded the Augustine Priory of Bustlesham, Bysham-Montague or Bisham in Berkshire, to which establishment very soon afterwards we find this rectory to have been appropriated, probably by the founder himself, subject, however, to a payment of five pounds to the bishop in addi-

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<sup>1</sup> "Ad annum cccxx Saxones Pictique bellum adversus Britones junctis viribus susceperunt in hac regione hodieque Maesgarmon appellata. Cum in prelium descenditur, apostolicis Britonum ducibus Germano et Lupo, Christus militabat in castris. Alleluia tertio repetitum exclamabant, hostile agmen terrore prosternitur triumphant hostibus fuis, sine sanguine palmâ fide non viribus obtentâ, M.P. in Victoriæ Alleluiaicæ memoriam N. G. MDCCXXXVI."

<sup>2</sup> "Institucio ad rectoriam ecclesiæ de Monte alto per David Ep'um Assav. ad presentationem Roberti de Monte alto. Dat. 3 id. Jun. 1318."—*Llyfr Coch*, 31A.

tion to all his other customary dues.<sup>1</sup> In the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, under "Decanatus de Monte alto", which consisted of Mold and Eston, we have "Rectoria de Monte alto annui valor' coibus annis xxx lib. appropriatur prioratui de Bisham et ideo," etc., and "Vicaria valet clare coibus annis £10 dec. £1." At the same time there appear to have been according to Leland "three chapelles" belonging to it,<sup>2</sup> i. e., Nerquis Treyddyn and either "Capel Spwdwr" already noticed, or "Capel Spon," in the township of Bistre. At the dissolution of Bisham Abbey the rectorial tithes were impropriated to lay holders,<sup>3</sup> from whom they have descended to Captain Knight of Barrels, in Warwickshire, and Mr. Bryan Davies Cooke, of Gwysaney, and of Owston, Yorkshire. According to the Commutation returns<sup>4</sup> Mr. Knight receives £1,158 : 8 : 11 per annum, Mr Cooke £487 ; and the Vicar £370<sup>5</sup>. From these last, however, £40 per annum have been assigned to the endowment of Bistre, in lieu of which a grant of £45 per annum is made by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, making the income £375 ; but upon this again there is at present an annual charge of £77 : 4 : 3,<sup>6</sup> payable to Queen Anne's Bounty, which makes the value, inclusive of a small glebe of 3a. 2r. 2p., about £307 : 15 : 6. The house, formerly called Trefriew, was purchased in 1847 for £1,500 ;<sup>7</sup> and enlarged in 1868 at a further outlay of £700. The patronage belongs to the bishop of the diocese.

<sup>1</sup> "Rectoria de *Molde* impropriata Monasterio de Bisham solvet pensionem 5 lib. Ep'o omnibus aliis juribus consuetis."—*Llyfr Côch*, 51A. No date. Tanner, however, in his cartulary of Bisham Abbey, has, "Pat. 9, Ric. II, pro ecclesiis de Coryryvell, Som et *Mohant* (March Walliæ) appropriandis" (*Notitia*, p. 16), which would fix the date at 1386 if *Mohant* be intended for Mold. But Mold was hardly in the Marches ; and *Moechnaut* (Llanrhaiadr), which was, never seems to have been appropriated to the Abbey.

<sup>2</sup> "In Molesdale is but one greate parochie caullid Plouhe (Parochie) Wriothegrig ; of sum, commonly Molesdale. There long three chapelles on to it."

<sup>3</sup> In Edwards' Browne Willis (1801) they were the Duke of Bridgewater and Robert Davies, Esq., of Gwysaney.

<sup>4</sup> Captain Knight has *all* tithes in Hendrebiffa, Leeswood, Arddynwent, Bistre, Llwynegrin, and Hartsheath ; *corn* tithes in Argoed, and *half* these of Broncoed. Captain Cooke *all* tithes in Gwysaney, Mold, and Gwernaffield. The vicar *all* in Byrehanillt, Rhual, and Rhual isa ; *corn* and small tithes of Broncoed ; hay and small in Argoed. There was a modus of eight shillings on the Tower estate, 223 a. 2 r. 6 p.

<sup>5</sup> Bishop Tanner's Book (Z.) assigns to the vicar tithe corn of Broncoed, one-sixth of wool and lamb throughout the parish ; corn and hay of Berchanillt, *Tre'r Beirdd*, and Rhual ; tithe hay of Argoed ; small tithes of all these townships, and one-sixth of the corn and hay of Treythin and Nerquis.

<sup>6</sup> *I. e.*, £28 : 6 : 9 in repayment of £748 borrowed in 1844, by Vicar Clough, towards purchase of house and glebe ; discharged in 1874 ; and £48 : 17 : 6, on account of £700, in 1868, by Vicar Davies, for its enlargement.

<sup>7</sup> MS. Z., quoting from old terriers, 1636, 1685, 1710, 1730, mentions "one



The church, St. Mary's, Sept. 8th, is one of the finest in the diocese, and belongs to the early part of the sixteenth century, having been built in the reign of Henry VII. In plan it consists of a nave with north and south aisles and a western tower, rebuilt in 1773 at a cost of £1,047, to which on the restoration of the church in 1856 an apsidal chancel and a north vestry were added. The interior is handsome and spacious, the nave being divided from the aisles by seven arches supported on clustered columns, with sculptured capitals of animal and floral life; and lighted by a series of clerestory windows, beneath which runs a broad band of elaborately carved quatrefoils and pannellings in the stone work; between the springs of every arch is an angel holding a shield on which are carved the instruments of the Passion and the arms of benefactors, among whom those of the Stanleys are prominent.<sup>1</sup> There are many fragments of early painted glass in the windows of the north aisle, and on one of them the date "Ano Dni Millmo cccce," which supplements the record in Browne Willis, that "Ap Shandin was vicar about sixty-two years and glazed two windows in the north ile." At the east end of the north aisle is a richly carved and coloured niche, and two others in the south aisle. The "curious image discovered in taking down the old tower in 1768, near the foundation," and ordered by the then vicar to be forthwith demolished as a popish relic, may at one time have occupied one of them. The arms of Bishop Parfew and the See with the legend "Robt's p'miss dia epv assavns" in old English characters, now forms the base of one in the south aisle, whilst the other is hidden by the monumental effigy of Robert Davies of Llannerch,<sup>2</sup> 1728. Bishop Parfew was a large contributor to the erection of the church, and this monument is said to have been erected to his memory by one John ap Rhys. Another bishop, whose name has been discovered on a foundation stone near the south-east corner was William Hughes. From the inscription "Fundamentum Ecclesiæ Christus,"<sup>3</sup> 1597, W. As.

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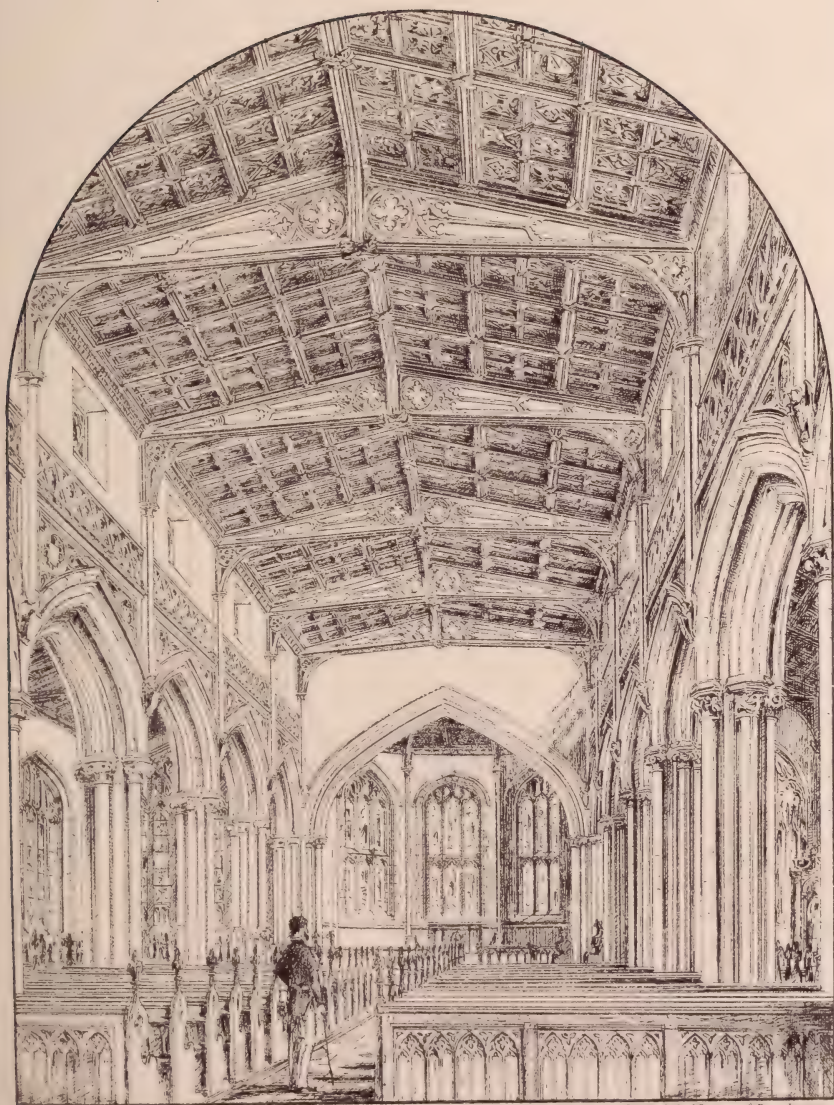
substantial new house built upon Croft y Vicer," about an acre, at the sole cost of Mrs. Anne Davies, relict of Robert Davies, Esq., with grates, tables, etc. The Commutation award also mentions glebe land in Hendre biffa, 1 a. 2 r.

<sup>1</sup> Henry IV granted the lordship, with those of Hope and Hopedale, to the Stanleys, afterwards Earls of Derby, in whose possession it remained till the death of James, the seventh Earl, a zealous adherent of Charles I, who, after the battle of Worcester, was taken prisoner by the Parliamentary forces and beheaded at Bolton. The Stanleys were also kings of Man: hence the arms of that island figure frequently in this church.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Davies was a learned antiquary and collector of Welsh MSS., five volumes of which are now at Owston in Yorkshire, and another five have been presented to the library of Jesus College, Oxford. The effigy is by Charles Cheere, and represents him in a Roman costume.

<sup>3</sup>

"The Church's one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ her Lord."



S MARYS CHURCH MOLD

Photo. Indo Mission & Sons Ltd.





Eps," as well as from the fact of certain bequests having been given to finish it, about the middle of Queen Elizabeth's reign, it appears that this church was not completed all at once; still the same plan was followed throughout. In taking down the old tower the workmen also "discovered at the depth of a foot below the ground a layer of burnt wheat, barley, rye, and beans, three inches thick, upon an earthen floor, from four to five yards square, under which was deposited in regular order a great number of human bones about half a yard in depth, and a stone which had been worked into the foundation, upon which was inscribed "Here lyeth the body of Gwenllian, daughter of Evan ap David ap Iorwerth."<sup>1</sup>

In the course of the restoration a gallery which had been erected at the west end was removed, the old pews swept away, and the interior entirely renovated; new and handsome fittings of solid oak benches with poppy heads, a beautifully carved pulpit, a lectern and stalls for the clergy of the same material introduced; a new oak roof highly floriated put up over the nave, similar to that which covered the north aisle; and an apsidal chancel added. The tracery work of the apse roof is very beautiful, and a handsome corona is suspended from the centre. The five perpendicular windows by which it is lighted are filled with stained glass,<sup>2</sup> the three central ones containing a series of historical incidents illustrative of the Life, Passion, and Ascension of our Lord; the two others being of plainer character, with texts instead of figures. That on the north side is memorial to "Frederick Charles Philips of Rhual, 1852, and Margaret, his wife, 1853"; that next to it is "dedicated to the memory of the Rev. Hope Wynne Eyton, of Leeswood, for thirty-two years vicar of this parish, by his eldest son John Wynne Eyton, who in fulfilment of the wish of his beloved father has also caused this chancel to be built and roof of nave restored, A.D. 1855." The central window and the two on the south side were put up at an expense of £400, as a testimonial of respect from the parishioners to their late vicar, and bear this inscription, "In honor of God and as a record of the eminent services in promoting church extension and religious instruction in the diocese rendered by the very Rev. Charles Butler Clough, M.A., for thirty-eight years curate and vicar of this parish,<sup>3</sup> for a long period a rural dean, afterwards Archdeacon and now Dean and Chancellor of St. St. Asaph." Beneath are three sedilia in stone, "presented and dedicated by the Dean of St. Asaph, 1856." The east window of the south aisle contains memorial glass to "David Hughes and Charlotte Sophia, his wife, A.D. 1863," and represents in the upper compartments our Lord and the four evangelists, and in the lower the following New

<sup>1</sup> Lewis' *Topographical Dict.*

<sup>2</sup> By Wailes of Newcastle.

<sup>3</sup> He was one of the founders of the Diocesan Church Building Society, and during his vicariate raised about £20,000 for Church purposes in this parish, in which he built the churches of Bistre, Gwernaffield, and Pontbleiddyn, with their schools and parsonage houses.

Testament incidents :—Our Lord healing the sick of the palsy and the man born blind, and raising Lazarus; the three Maries; and the raising of Dorcas. The west window also contains stained glass, illustrating baptism by type and history, and is memorial to “Lizzie, wife of William B. Marston, 1868.” Another window, on the south side, contains eight medallion illustrations of stewardship, with the text beneath, “Well done thou good and faithful steward,” and is in memory of Henry Raikes of Llwynegrin by his widow, 1863. In the same aisle are brasses to the memory of “the pious and charitable, the Rev. Mr. Richard Davies, Vicar of Rhuabon, Precentor of Brecon, Canon of St. Asaph and St. David’s, 1746;” and to Frederic Philips of Rhual, 1866.” There are also mural tablets to Rev. Hope Wynne Eyton, 1822; Jane Wynne Eyton, 1847; Margaret Sidney, wife of Rev. C. B. Clough, 1826, and others. The west end of wall of the nave has many tablets, *e. g.*, to John Wynne of Tower, 1737, and Roger Wynne ditto, 1776, both with coats of arms; William Wynne, D.D., rector of Llanfechain, 1776; Watkin Griffith of Rhual, Major 29th Light Dragoons, who fell in Hindoostan, 1803; and Thomas Griffith, 1811; Wilson Henry Jones (of Hartsheath) Captain 13th Light Infantry, killed at Azinghur, 1858; Bethel W. Whitmore, 1731, armorial; Margaret Hill-Waring, daughter of Sir George Wynne of Leeswood, 1793; John Davies of Gwysaney, with arms, 1705; Rev. Thos. Williams, curate of this parish, and late chaplain of Christ Church, Oxford, 1801. In the north aisle the windows, each of four lights, have a blank division on either side; and one of them is filled with stained glass, in memory of Robert Wynne Eyton, M.A., vicar of Northop, and honorary canon of St. Asaph,” March 21, 1865. It represents in its upper compartments SS. Peter, Matthias, Stephen, and Paul, and in the lower The Calling of the Twelve, the Election of Matthias, the Ordination of the Deacons, and the Commission of Saul and Barnabas. On the same wall close by are memorial tablets to Charlotte, wife of the above R. W. E., vicar of Llangollen, 1843; to Field-Marshal Sir Alured Clarke, G.C.B., 1832; and several others. The easternmost bay of this aisle is occupied by the organ, built originally by England and placed in the gallery, but rebuilt by the Messrs. Jackson of Liverpool, and put up here at the restoration. The principal entrance to the church is through the south porch, near which stands the font, presented in 1847, as also were the five alms-dishes in 1856, by sisters of the vicar. The tower contains three large and one saint’s bell. The old north door now serves as an entrance to the vestry, in which a commemorative window has been set up, recording the names of those more immediately connected with the work of the restoration,<sup>1</sup> the cost of which was about five thousand pounds.

<sup>1</sup> “Hæc ecclesia xv<sup>o</sup> sæculo erecta, anno restaurata est MDCCCLVI. T. V. Short, S.T.P., Ep’o Asaphens’; C. B. Clough, A.M., Decano Asaphens’; Jenkin Davies, A.M., Vicario; Gulielmo K. B. Briscoe, A.M., Curato; T. Wynne

The registers date from 1624 and are complete throughout the Commonwealth, having been kept by the curate, Mr. Ellis, whilst the rector was obliged to absent himself, as he tells us, "in regard of the violence used in those parts then." A paper list of the baptisms performed by him during a portion of this interval is inserted in the proper register.

The Schools.—1. In 1723, Mr. James Hughes, of Mile End Green, in Middlesex, gave to the Blue Coat or Charity School, £100; subsequently invested in £145, Three per Cents., and yielding £4 : 7 : 4.

2. In 1744 the Rev. Hugh Lloyd, M.A., vicar, having "at his sole charge"<sup>1</sup> erected a school-house for the charity in the churchyard, endowed it with a charge of £11 per annum on Trefriew, now the vicarage house.

3. In 1780 Mrs. Martha Dodd bequeathed £100 now £112 4s. in the Savings Bank, yielding £3 : 14 : 8. In the year 1819 a sum of £267 8s. was collected in subscriptions, to which the National Society added £100; and with this a Dissenting chapel and an old stable were purchased, fitted up and furnished as a National School, to which the above bequests were transferred and the old charity school discontinued, the rental of the old school-house being added to the salary; and, in 1849, new National Schools, handsome and commodious, for boys, girls, and infants were erected at a cost of £1,747.

At "Gwynmynydd," near the limestone quarries, a pretty little school was built a few years ago at a cost of £600, chiefly through the exertions of the late Dr. Hughes, of Mold.<sup>2</sup>

The "General Charities" embrace—

1. Lands in Pentrehobin, 21 a. 2 r. 20 p., purchased with a bequest of £100 from Thomas Williams, Esq., of Halkin, in 1725, and £148 10s. of consolidated benefactions, producing £17 : 17 : 4 per annum.<sup>3</sup>

2. Rentcharge of £2 on Tynryn in Llanferras, by Jane Williams, in 1671, for clothing.<sup>3</sup>

3. Land in Caerwys, 25 a. 2 r. 39 p., by Griffith Jones of Mertyn, in 1729, for white bread; rental £22.

4. Charge on Tower Estate by Thomas Wynne, 1721, £1.<sup>3</sup>

5. Tynybryn in Arddynwent, 4 a. 1 r. 19 p., purchased in 1753, with £150 of benefactions; rental £6 10s.<sup>3</sup>

6. £50 by Rev. Dr. Wynne of Tower, on the Mold and Broughton Turnpike Trust, £2 10s.<sup>3</sup>

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Eyton; C. Butler Clough; Petro Williams; J. Wms. Jones, *Ædituis*; G. G. Scott, *Architecto*. *Non nobis, Domine, sed nomini tuo da gloriam.*" To which may be added that the external stone carving was done by Mr. J. Blimstone; and the excellent wood-carving of the interior, especially the chancel, by Mr. Robert Edwards of Mold.

<sup>1</sup> The indenture of endowment. Edwards (B. Willis) says he "funded the offertory money for many years, and built the school with it."

<sup>2</sup> The Church Extension Society has just made a grant towards a curate's services in connection with it.

<sup>3</sup> Applied to clothing.



The other benefactions from which some of the above purchase monies were taken were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1641. W. David ap Gronw	40	0	0	1730. Mrs. Pennant	20	0	0
1648. Ann Lloyd	1	0	0	1732. Margaret Lloyd	20	0	0
1659. Elizabeth Hughes	50	0	0	1734. Thomas Williams	5	0	0
1673. John Bythil <sup>1</sup>	33	6	8	— Evan Ambrose	20	0	0
— Elizabeth Birken-				1737. Mrs. Wynne	12	0	0
head	70	0	0	1741. Mrs. Lloyd	30	0	0
1685. Hugh Price	10	0	0	1742. Richard Lloyd	10	0	0
1698. Robert Hughes	50	0	0	1745. Thomas Jones	50	0	0
1700. Edwd. John Robert	3	0	0	1745. Griffith Williams	50	0	0
1716. Richard Jones <sup>2</sup>	16	13	4	1752. William Williams	20	0	0
1720. David Howel	20	0	0				

Of the above total of £531 the sum of £261 : 16 : 8 was invested as above, but of the balance there is no account; it was probably applied, as some of it certainly was, to parochial purposes; and there was one bequest of £500 navy stock by Mrs. Louise Bertrand, 1789, to the vicar and churchwardens, about the appropriation of which a question arose after her death, and it was finally divided between them as a legacy.

## VICARS.

1500.—Ap Shandin	[PRICE, Thomas
1506.—Johnap Howelap David <sup>3</sup>	LEWIS, Stephen]
1537.—WYNNE, John, LL.B. <sup>4</sup>	1561.—Price, J.
1565.—Elis ap David ap Rhys <sup>5</sup>	1563.—PRICE, Thomas, M.A.
1576.—THELWALL, Eusebius	1565.—WILLIAMS, Walter <sup>10</sup>
1594.—EVANS, David	1582.—HUMPHREYS, J. <sup>11</sup>
1612.—MORGAN, Evan, B.D. <sup>6</sup>	1589.—MATTHEWS, Andrew, A.M.
1616.—EDWARDS, William <sup>7</sup>	1691.—JONES, Morgan
1641.—GRIFFITH, Rice, A.M. <sup>8</sup>	1706.—WILLIAMS, Peter, A.M.
1643.—ROBERTS, George, A.M. <sup>9</sup>	1717.—LLOYD, Hugh, A.M. <sup>12</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Also £16 : 13 : 4 between Nerquis and Treyddin.

<sup>2</sup> Also an equal sum to Nerquis and Treyddin.

<sup>3</sup> S. R. Pennant, 1506-37; V. Llanrwst, 1537-51; R. Llanddoget and V. Llan-gernyw, 1551; Canon, 1552.

<sup>4</sup> S. R. Pennant, 1537-65.

<sup>5</sup> He was of Gwernaffield. S. R. Llanarmon yn Iâl, 1554-62; vicar ibidem, 1556-67.

<sup>6</sup> V. Llanrhaidr yn Mochnant, 1588-1612; S. R. Caerwys, 1614; S. R. Pennant and R. Denbigh, 1615; Canon, 1616; Preb. Meifod, 1617.

<sup>7</sup> V. Hope, 1598-1616; S. R. Nannerch, 1600.

<sup>8</sup> V. Nantglyn, 1635-39; V. Ysgeifiog, 1639-41.

<sup>9</sup> S. R. Caerwys.

<sup>10</sup> V. St. Martin's, 1633, of which he was deprived.

<sup>11</sup> V. Holywell, 1677-82.

<sup>12</sup> V. Llanasa, 1716; R. Llangynhafal, 1729; Preb. Meifod, 1730.

1749.—LEWIS, Robert, A.M.<sup>1</sup>      1825.—CLOUGH, Charles B., M.A.<sup>3</sup>  
 1792.—WYNNE-EYTON, H., M.A.<sup>2</sup>      1854.—DAVIES, Jenkin, M.A.

1872.—ELLIS, Rowland, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Deacon, 1864; Pr., 1865; Curate of Gresford, 1863-8; P. C. Gwersyllt, 1868-72; Rural Dean, 1873.

### BISTRE.

BISTRE, the "Biscopstrev" of Domesday, was constituted an ecclesiastical district by an order in council, dated 23rd May, 1844, and comprises nearly the whole of the township of the same name and a portion of that of Argoed, with a population of 2,801.

It is endowed with £104 per annum by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and the small tithes of Argoed, worth £40 per annum, made over to it by the vicar of Mold. There is also a house with 2½ acres of glebe, purchased in 1843 with a grant of £200 from Queen Anne's Bounty, which was made to meet a benefaction of the same amount, and £50 in subscriptions. The patronage belongs to the vicar of Mold.

The church, consecrated in the name of Emmanuel on the 25th October, 1842, was built after the model of Casterton Church in Westmoreland, except that it lies north and south instead of east and west.<sup>4</sup> It consists of a broad nave with a small sacarium, and has at the north end a gallery [which forms also by the space beneath it an antechapel], and externally a battlemented tower, the base of which forms the entrance. The roof is open and of very wide span; the windows lancets; some of the seats in the gallery and those in the middle of the church are open benches and free, the sides being occupied by pews, the rents of which were originally intended to improve the stipend.

The schools were built at the same time as the church, the cost of both together being £1,520.

*Vicar.*—JONES, Edward, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford, for some time a Master in Malpas, Christleton, and Grove Park Schools; Deacon, 1840; Pr., 1841; Curate of Billinge in Wigan, 1840-2.

<sup>1</sup> V. Pennant and R. Llangynog, 1744-47; R. Nannerch, 1746-47; V. Corwen, 1747-49; Canon, 1760.

<sup>2</sup> Of Leeswood.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanferras, 1821-54; Archdeacon of St. Asaph, 1844; Dean and Chancellor, 1854.

<sup>4</sup> The new church of St. Anne, in Denbigh, also has this peculiarity.

## SPON CHAPEL.

HUGH LUPUS, Earl of Chester, granted "the tenths of Bissopstred" in 1093 to the monks of St. Werburgh's in Chester; who built here a capella or oratory for the spiritual provision of the locality. In 1209, however, they were obliged to surrender this with other places to Roger de Montalt, in consideration of his restoring to them the Church of Neston.<sup>1</sup> From this time it is probable that it became attached spiritually to Hawarden, and that it was served from thence until the Reformation. A small part of the walls was standing in 1698-9,<sup>2</sup> and not many years ago some remains were turned up by the plough.<sup>3</sup> The site and the name are now all that survive of it.

GWERNAFFIELD.<sup>4</sup>

THIS district, as gazetted on December 13th, 1844, consisted of the townships of Hendrebiffa and Gwernaffield,<sup>5</sup> but by a subsequent order in council a portion of the latter was transferred to the consolidated chapelry of Rhydymwyn. The present area is about 1,689 a. 1r. 15 p. and the population 974.

The original endowment consisted of £500 in Three per Cents.; £200 grant by lot from Queen Anne's Bounty in 1839; £200 benefaction by Col. Philips in 1840, and another equal grant to meet the same by Queen Anne's Bounty, in all £1,100; which was invested as follows:—In the purchase of Pantglas Farm, 16 a. 3 r. 9 p., £800; deeds for ditto, £25; glebe for parsonage, £100; and the balance of £175 towards the building of the parsonage and outbuildings erected in 1845 at a cost of £627. By subsequent purchases the land belonging to the church has been much increased. In 1860, 10 a. 2 r. 15 p. were bought from Mr. John Lloyd of Cilcain; in 1863 some glebe land here belonging to Stretton Church, Staffordshire, 15 a. 0 r. 29 p., was added; and in 1869 Fronheulog farm of 25 a. 0 r. 33 p. was purchased for £1,700; the deeds in the possession of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. These lands amounting in all to

<sup>1</sup> See under Hawarden, p. 582.

<sup>2</sup> Browne Willis, i, p. 394.

<sup>3</sup> *Cambrian Journal*, i, p. 370.

<sup>4</sup> This is evidently a corruption. The old name in the parochial register is "Gwernaffyllt", and another name that occurs is "Myllt", whence I think we may conclude that the true name is "Gwern" or "Gwernau", i. e., the common covered with *myllt*, i. e., *meillion*, "trefoil", or perhaps *myllyn*, "wild violets".

<sup>5</sup> From the exception of the tithe townships of Rhual and Rhual isa, it seems that they had come to be considered a portion of Gwernaffield.



67a. 3r. 6p. are let at £160 per annum. The vicarage is in the patronage of the vicar of Mold.

The first church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, was one of those built through the energy of vicar Clough, and consecrated in the year 1838; it was in the form of a parallelogram, very plain, and without any architectural features; and in 1871 had become so unsafe from bad foundations and faulty construction<sup>1</sup> that it had to be taken down. In 1872 a new church was erected on the same site in the early geometric style of the latter half of the thirteenth century, from the plans of Mr. D. Walker of Liverpool. Externally, an unbroken continuous roof covers the nave and chancel, whilst at the west end a turret and flèche of quaint design spring from a square oaken paneled base into a conical form, which is banded with blue and green slates, and finishes with a wrought iron gilded cross. The main entrance is through an open porch on the south front, whilst from the vestry on the north side there is an entrance into the chancel. Internally, the chancel is divided from the nave by an arch resting on columns with carved capitals; and has an organ chamber and credence on the north side, and arcaded sedilia on the south. The roof in the wagon-headed form, and the stalls, are of pitch pine; the floor has Malkin's encaustic tiles. The east window is a four light, with early geometric lace tracery, whilst a two light on the south side is memorial to Lucy Price of Fron, ob. 1859, and represents our Lord and the Four Evangelists. In the west gable of the nave is preserved the east window of the old church, which had been "presented by Frederic C. Philips, Feb. 15, 1850." The font also is from the older church. The pulpit of paneled pine, carved and moulded, stands on a stone base, the brass desk upon it was given by Archdeacon Wickham. The cost of the erection was about £1,400,<sup>2</sup> and it was reopened on Thursday, August 22, 1872.

The national school was erected in 1838 at a cost of £180; and c. 1855 an industrial school was started through the aid of Dr. Reynolds, but did not prove a success, and has been discontinued.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES, NOW VICARS.

1840.—WILLIAMS, Robert, M.A.; R. Llanfyllin, 1850; Hon. Canon, 1858.

1850.—JONES, Jenkin; P. C. Gwersyllt, 1858; R. Cerrigydrudion, 1868.

1858.—HUGHES, John; Writer of *Welsh Reformers*, Nisbet, 1867.

1870.—ROBERTS, Henry, M.A., Christ Church, Oxford; Deac., 1848 Pr., 1849; Curate of Mold; V. Dwygyfylchau, 1868.

<sup>1</sup> The cost of its erection was £764.

<sup>2</sup> The chief sources of this were, £350 collected for a memorial to the late Mr. Frederic Philips of Rhual, £100 each from Capt. Philips and Mr. Lloyd of Cefn Mawr, £70 from Bishop Short, £50 each from St. Asaph Church Building Society and Capt. Cooke. Reopening offertories, £62.

## NERQUIS.

THIS is one of the ancient chapelries of Mold, under which it is included by name in the *Taxatio*, and by implication in the *Valor*: it consists of a township of the same name, containing a total area of 2,280 a. 2r. : 3p.; a rateable area of 1881 acres, rated at £3,094, and a titheable area of 1,404 acres, with a population of 669. To which, for ecclesiastical purposes the township of Arddynwent has been added, with a further population of 400.

Of the tithes of the township five-sixths were attached to the rectory, and the remaining sixth assigned to the perpetual curate. The rectorial tithes previously to the Reformation belonged, like those of Mold, to the Abbey of Bisham, and they have subsequently shared the same fortune, being now impropriate to Captain Knight; their commuted value is £215 : 4 : 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ , whilst those of the incumbent are £43 : 9 : 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ , to which must be added £12 10s. per annum, a half share (with Treyddyn) in some sixteen acres of land in Northop, purchased in 1810 with Queen Anne's Bounty; £8, also the half share, with Treyddyn, in rental of four acres of land at Denbigh; and £27, the rental of lands in Bangor-is-y-coed, also purchased with Queen Anne's Bounty;<sup>1</sup> also two rent-charges, one of £3 per annum for six sermons by Mr. Griffith Roberts, of Holt, in 1664; and another of £2 by Mrs. Catherine Wenlock, in 1708, for four sermons, making the total income £95 : 19 : 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ . There is at present neither house nor glebe; the old vicarage, which was very poor, with two acres of land having been sold in 1866 to a mining company for £1,050, which sum is held by Queen Anne's Bounty in trust for the provision of a new one. Patron, the vicar of Mold.

The church, St. Mary's, originally in the form of a simple parallelogram with a western tower surmounted by a spire, was enlarged in 1847 by the addition of two transepts and a small apse,<sup>2</sup> and reopened on the Festival of SS. Simon and Jude.<sup>3</sup> During these alterations there were found worked up in the north wall one entire and portions of two other coffin lids, ornamented with floriated crosses; also in the east wall a small recess or aumbry, with a face cut upon the bottom stone. Of the first foundation of the church we have no other intimation than such as may be conveyed by the moduses, which

<sup>1</sup> Grants of £200 each were made in 1737, 1780, and 1805.

<sup>2</sup> The cost was £287 : 15 : 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ , towards which the chief contributions were, the Diocesan Church Building Society, £80; Incorporated ditto, £50; Arch-deacon Clough, £56.

<sup>3</sup> In the unrestored church, "The Communion Table was in the body of the chancel and a seat for the family of Hendre, erected in the place where it ought to stand, and it was said a faculty obtained for that purpose from the Ecclesiastical Court." Drummond's Book, 1748.

are generally an index to the erection and endowment of a church.<sup>1</sup> It was probably on the erection of the tower that the previous entrance through a west door was closed up and the south porch built; the entrance to the gallery is still through the tower, which bears the date 1723. In the north-east corner of the church there is a beautiful and elaborately carved shrine, called "Cadair Fair", the Virgin's Seat, with canopied niches for statuettes above; the whole profusely enriched with screen work and coloured (recently) in blue and red and gold. The pulpit also has its panels set off with carved tracery of decorated work, the fineness of which is much obscured by layers of paint. Some few fragments of early stained glass are preserved in the south window of the aisle, and that of the north transept, and in the east window there is some modern glass, of a naturalistic type, representing the Adoration and the Resurrection. The font, which was given by the vicar and churchwardens of Mold, is a small bowl supported on a baluster pediment; the one previously in use, a very diminutive one, is imbedded for preservation in the ledge of one of the south windows. Among the mural tablets are heraldic ones to Robert Roberts of Plas ucha, 1705; Richard Jones of Hendre, 1716; and Jones of Plas Inn, 1784; and others to the Parrys of Hendre and Chester, including Edw. Parry, R. Llanferres, the father of Bishop Parry of Barbadoes, and the brother of J. Humphreys Parry, the author of the *Cambrian Plutarch* and editor of the *Cambro-Briton*.

The new National School<sup>2</sup> was built in 1871 at a cost of £430, raised by subscriptions,<sup>3</sup> and there is in hand for a house a sum of £170, the proceeds of a sale of work at Mold. This school has an endowment of £9 10s. per annum, arising from a share in the land at Holt,<sup>4</sup> 13 a. 1 r. 5p., given by Mr. Griffiths Roberts in 1664; also of 14s. 6d. the half rent of a quillet of land on Soughton mountain, bought for £40:10:6, the proceeds of timber cut down in 1803 on the said lands; £1 per annum by will of Mrs. Catherine Wenlock, 1708; 8s. the half share of interest of £24 bequeathed by Mrs. Ann Harrison 1813, between this and Treyddin; and £5 per annum from the Nerquis Hall estate, the interest of £100, bequeathed by Mrs. Hyde of

<sup>1</sup> Moduses in lieu of tithe hay are payable as follows:

	A.	B.	P.		s.	d.		s.	d.
For Plas Ucha estate, of	150	2	34,	to impropr.	6	8,	to P. C.	1	4
„ Nerquis Hall	242	2	22	„	8	4	„	1	8
„ Hendre	188	3	17	„	6	8	„	1	4
„ Plas Owen	56	3	22	„	4	2	„	0	10

<sup>2</sup> The schoolroom previously in use having been built by Miss Gifford, and being private property, has reverted to the owner.

<sup>3</sup> Diocesan Board of Education, £70; Carey Fund, £35; Mr. Thompson, £30; Mr. Fletcher, £51 and site.

<sup>4</sup> This land was given for the benefit of the schools in Nerquis and Treyddyn, and for six sermons yearly in each of the churches.



Nerquis Hall in 1790. Other charities embrace a rent-charge of 4s. 4d on Rhiwyâl left by Roberts; interest of £15<sup>1</sup> in Mold Savings Bank, and of £80<sup>2</sup> in Holywell Turnpike Trust.

PERPETUAL CURATES.<sup>3</sup>

1740.—LEWIS, William	1831.—EVANS, Thomas <sup>8</sup>
1743.—ROGERS, William, B.A. <sup>4</sup>	1843.—WILLIAMS, John, M.A. <sup>9</sup>
1753.—ELLIS, Evan, B.A. <sup>5</sup>	1849.—ROWLANDS, John, B.D. <sup>10</sup>
1773.—MASON, Hugh <sup>6</sup>	1854.—PARRY, David, B.A. <sup>11</sup>
1801.—WILLIAMS, John <sup>7</sup>	1856.—JONES, Ebenezer <sup>12</sup>
1818.—JONES, H. Wepre Owen	

1867.—DAVIES, Thomas, St. Bees; Deacon, 1864; Priest, 1865; Curate of Brymbo, 1864-67.

PONTBLEIDDYN.<sup>13</sup>

THIS district, which is formed out of the parish of Mold, and was gazetted in 1836, comprises the township of Hartsheath<sup>14</sup> and a portion of Leeswood, with a population of 2,297 chiefly occupied in coal, oil, and mineral works. The endowment consists of an annual sum of £70 10s., paid by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners; a payment of

<sup>1</sup> Catherine Bolland, 1793, £10; and Robert ap Gwyn, £5.

<sup>2</sup> Consolidated Charities; 1673, John Bythel, £8:6:8; 1716, Richard Jones, £16:13:4; 1722, Edward Bythel, £5; 1735, Jane Jones, £5; Robert Roberts, £20; 1708, Catherine Wenlock (for school as above), £20; and 1750, Eleanor Wynne, £4.

<sup>3</sup> From 1743 till the resignation of H. W. O. Jones in 1831, Nerquis and Treyddin were held by the same incumbents.

<sup>4</sup> R. Llanwyddelan, 1753.

<sup>5</sup> V. Cilcain, 1762-72; V. Llandrillo in Rhos, 1772.

<sup>6</sup> Mural tablet in the church.

<sup>7</sup> Previously, for thirty years, Master of Northop School.

<sup>8</sup> V. Cilcain, 1841.

<sup>9</sup> "Ab Ithel." Author of *The Traditionary Annals of the Cymry, The Ecclesiastical Antiquities of the Cymru*, etc. (Suprà, p. 455.)

<sup>10</sup> Fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge; tenth Wrangler, 1832; R. Grimston, dioc. Norwich, 1853. Contributor to *Imperial Bible Dictionary*.

<sup>11</sup> R. Darowen, 1856; V. Llanwnnog, 1873.

<sup>12</sup> V. Cilcain.

<sup>13</sup> "The bridge of Bleiddyn", the Welsh form of the name of Lupus, Bishop of Troyes, the companion of Garmon, Bishop of Auxerre, and his co-champion of the orthodox faith in the memorable battle of Maes Garmon (p. 598).

<sup>14</sup> Anciently written "Hersedd".



TREYDDYN.<sup>1</sup>

THIS is one of the ancient chapelries of Mold, not noticed either in the *Taxatio* of 1291 or in the *Valor* of 1535; but evidently included by Leland among the "three chapelles that longed on to Ploughe (Paroche) Wriothehgrig." Its district consists of one township of the same name, with an area of 3,554 a. 0 r. 36 p., and a population of 1,951. The tithes of the township were commuted at £63:14:3 $\frac{3}{4}$  to the perpetual curate, and £317:18:8 $\frac{1}{4}$  to the impropriator, at present C. Raleigh Knight, Esq. The vicar has, moreover, a house, built in 1862, for £800, and thirty-two acres of glebe, besides eight acres in Northop<sup>2</sup> and two in Denbigh parish. The old vicarage was situate in Nerquis and was sold together with its glebe, and with the proceeds thereof and also three grants of £200 from Queen Anne's Bounty in 1743, 1759, and 1807; and a Parliamentary grant of £400 in 1816, the above purchases were made. The annual value is about £140 per annum, and it is in the patronage of the bishop.<sup>3</sup>

The church, St. Mary's, is in the form of a double parallelogram divided by an arcade of late perpendicular date. The chancel is on the south side and divided from the nave by a low wooden screen, which is also continued across the northern aisle: but at a greater height and of rude workmanship. The fine old communion table is Elizabethan. The roofs of the porch and that of the north aisle (which appears to be the earlier of the two) are pretty. The reading desk was set up in 1720, and in 1758 the western walls, which appear to have fallen down, were rebuilt. A western gallery was erected in 1792, and about the same time the chancel ceiling plastered with some rude vine patterns. The east window of the south aisle is a late perpendicular of four lights with a transom, that of the chancel an earlier one of plainer character. The church is at present in a dilapidated and even insecure condition, and there is a movement on foot for its rebuilding, plans having been procured with that view from Mr. T. H. Wyatt.<sup>4</sup>

During some alteration here in 1866 one of the early "Horn

<sup>1</sup> Also written Treuddyn, Tryddin, Tryddyn, Trethin, Treddin, and Treyddin; either from *Treiddyn*, "a projecting ridge", or from *Tre-y-ddin*, "the township of the fortalice".

<sup>2</sup> On Soughton Mountain, purchased in 1810, between Treyddin and Nerquis.

<sup>3</sup> "In a deed of purchase, 14th Oct., 1745, signed by Bishop Lisle; Hugh Lloyd, vicar of Mold; and William Rogers, curate of Treyddin; with seal of Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty. The patronage is ascertained to the Bishop; and all right, interest, benefit, or profit, is disclaimed by the vicar for ever."—Bishop Drummond's Book.

<sup>4</sup> Estimated cost, £1,200. Already subscribed, £500; chief contributors being Major Roper, £100; Lord Richard Grosvenor, M.P., Mrs. Wilson Jones, and Mr. Fletcher, £50 each, etc.



"Books" (Llyfr Corn) was found under a pew in perfect preservation. It consisted of a small sheet of paper, having printed on it in black letter characters "the letters of the alphabet, small and capitals, the vowels and monosyllabic words representing the simplest sounds," the formula "In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Amen", and the Lord's Prayer. This paper was laid upon a small oaken tablet, over which a sheet of horn was fastened, as we now put glass, and bound with a narrow rim of copper; and in the handle was bored a small hole for the string by which to suspend it on the wall when the lesson was done. Unfortunately it became a little damaged on exposure.<sup>1</sup>

The national school was erected in 1844 and enlarged in 1869. Previously a charity school had been erected about the year 1750 on a site given by Mrs. Elizabeth Hyde, of Nerquis Hall, to which an additional room was built about 1820 by Mrs. Giffard. It has an endowment of £8 10s. per annum, arising out of lands in Holt, given by Griffith Roberts in 1664;<sup>2</sup> an old cottage worth about £3 per annum, the gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Hyde in 1790; and the half-rent of a quillet on Soughton Mountain, purchased in 1803, with produce of money from Griffith Roberts' land, divided between this and Nerquis School.

Other charities, as appears from the vestry book of Mold, paid over to this chapelry, amounting in all to £40,<sup>3</sup> were laid out on security in 1756, and finally lost in 1801.

## PERPETUAL CURATES OR VICARS.

1620.—POWELL, William <sup>4</sup>	1773.—MASON, Hugh
1733.—LEWIS, Thomas	1801.—WILLIAMS, John <sup>8</sup>
1735.—DANIEL, Edward <sup>5</sup>	1818.—JONES, H. Wepre O., M.A. <sup>9</sup>
1738.—JONES, John	1832.—WILLIAMS, Isaac, B.A.
1746.—ROGERS, William, B.A. <sup>6</sup>	1842.—PRICE, John, B.A. <sup>10</sup>
1756.—ELLIS, Evan, B.A. <sup>7</sup>	1849.—DAVIES, David <sup>11</sup>
1867.—DAVIES, John, St. Bees; Deac., 1862; Pr., 1863; C. Cwm, 1862-67.	

<sup>1</sup> It is now in the possession of the late vicar at Llansantffraid G. Conway.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Roberts' bequest, 13 a. 1 r. 5 p., was charged with £3 each to the perpetual curates of Nerquis and Treyddin for six sermons or lectures, and the residue for the respective schools.

<sup>3</sup> Including £8 : 13 : 4, amount of a bequest of John Bythel, 1673; £16 : 13 : 4 from Richard Jones, 1716; and £4 from Mrs. Elinor Wynne, 1750.

<sup>4</sup> "Gwilym Powel died 1695, æt. 100 years."

<sup>5</sup> V. Tremeirchion, 1738.

<sup>6</sup> R. Llanwyddelan, 1753; R. Ripple, Kent.

<sup>7</sup> V. Cilcain, 1762-72; V. Llandrillo yn Rhos, 1772.

<sup>8</sup> For thirty years Master of Northop School, and C. Nerquis.

<sup>9</sup> Evan Jones, curate to H. W. O. Jones, published, at the request of the parishioners, a volume of Welsh Sermons preached here.

<sup>10</sup> R. Darowen, 1849.

<sup>11</sup> R. Llansantffraid Glan Conway, 1867.

## BRYNEGLWYS.

THIS parish comprises the townships of Bodynwyddog, Bryntangor, Gwythrania, Tre'rllan, and Talybidwal, with a rateable area of 3,343 acres, rated at £2,202, and a population of 389.

From one of the earliest notices we find that between A.D. 1247-1254, Bishop Anian I conceded the rectorial tithes to the abbot and monks of Valle Crucis, on the condition that the tithes which they then derived from Llandegla should be given up by them to the vicar thereof.<sup>1</sup> Hence we have in the *Taxatio*, A.D. 1291, "Ecclia de Bryne Eglwys taxat' Rectoria £2 et quod alibi rector est beneficiatus decim' 4s.; Vicaria £1 : 6 : 8 non dec." Some time during the interval between this date and 1535 the vicarage became absorbed or united to the rectory, and the cure was served directly from the Abbey, distant from the church about three miles; for in the *Valor* it is returned under Valle Crucis as "Capella de Breneglois", valued at £7 2s. At the dissolution these tithes, like the rest of the property of the Abbey, were granted first to Sir Wm. Pickering, and the grant was afterwards renewed to his son-in-law, Sir Edward Wootton, from whom they descended to the Wynnstay family, who sold the impropriate tithes, but retained the patronage. The tithes of the two townships of Bodynwyddog and Bryntangor have been commuted at £111 10s., and those of the other three at £177, which were shared among the following impropiators: Mr. Townshend Mainwaring, £118; Mr. W. Corbet Yale, £106; Rev. James Meredith, £59; Major Ffoulkes, £5 10s.<sup>2</sup> In the present year, 1873, however, a portion of the above tithes, commuted at £71 : 4 : 2, were redeemed from Mr. Mainwaring<sup>3</sup> for the improvement of the vicarage, the income of which had previously been derived only from lands purchased by the aid of Queen Anne's Bounty. In 1730 a grant of £200 was made to meet an equal benefaction by Watkin Williams Wynn, Esq., the patron, and in 1752 another grant of £200 was added, and these were invested in the purchase of Ty'r Clochydd,<sup>4</sup> now the old vicarage in Llanarmon-yn-Ial, containing about 18 acres and rented at £38 per annum, and Penycae<sup>5</sup> in Llanelidan, 13 acres rented at £20 per annum. Subsequent grants

<sup>1</sup> "Concessio duarum partium ecclesie de Bryneglwys Madoco Abbati et Conventui de Valle Crucis per Anianum Ep'um Ass'. Ita tamen quod portio de Llandegla quam ipsi habeant redeat in usum vicarii ejusdem loci."—*Llyfr Cŏch*, 44A.

<sup>2</sup> The greater portion of Bryntangor township is tithe free.

<sup>3</sup> For this object £650 were collected by the vicar, and an equal sum was granted to meet it by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The tithes were conveyed to the vicarage, 15 April, 1873.

<sup>4</sup> During the incumbency of Mr. Poole, who became perpetual curate of Llangedwyn, 1748.

<sup>5</sup> During the incumbency of Mr. Yale.

in 1805 and 1813 of £200 each were invested in the purchase of Bryncoch<sup>1</sup> in Llandysilio parish, the present residence of the vicar, containing about 18 acres. Present value, £146 : 4 : 2 per annum, and 18 acres of glebe land. Patron, Sir W. Williams Wyn, Bart.

The church, St. Tysilio, which consists of nave and south chapel, called the "Yale Chapel," is small and poor; but it is in contemplation to restore it. There are a few monuments in the church, *e. g.*, to William Vaughan Pughe of Tygwyn, 1738; Mr. David Thelwall of Blaen-yale, 1760; and Mary Thelwall of Blaen-yale, 1793. And in the Yale Chapel, an early floriated cross, inscribed "Hic jacet Tang wystl fil Yeuf ap Maredudd," besides several recent monuments of the family whose name it bears, ranging from Rev. John Yale, 1789, to Lieut.-Col. Wm. Parry Yale, 1867. The font, as at Bettws, Llangar, Cerrig y Drudion and Llangwm, is let into the wall after the manner of the ancient stoups for holy water.

The School.—Mrs. Margaret Lloyd in 1714 granted a rentcharge of £6 per annum on Tynywern for the teaching of the poorest children of the parish. Some years ago an allotment of three acres of land under an Enclosure Act was added to the endowment, and two cottages erected upon it, about the year 1832; in one of which the master lived and kept the school. A new national school, however, has just been built at a cost of £376<sup>2</sup> on a site given by Mr. Corbet Yale, and opened March 3rd, 1873.

There is also a charge of £1 per annum for the poor upon Pant Sais, the interest of £25 given by Mr. Watkin Thelwall of Pistyll, Holywell, in 1811.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES.

1729.—PRICE, Henry	1760.—*YALE, John, B.A. <sup>6</sup>
1737.—LLOYD, Richard <sup>3</sup>	1789.—*WILLIAMS, Robert <sup>7</sup>
1747.—POOLE, Anthony <sup>4</sup>	1796.—*DENMAN, John <sup>8</sup>
1749.—JONES, William, B.A. <sup>5</sup>	1831.—*WILLIAMS, Ebenezer

*Vicar*.—1870. OWEN, Richard, St. Thomas', Oxford; Deac., 1858; Pr., 1859; C. Llangynyw, 1858; Llansantffraid G. D., 1860; Llandrillo in Edeirnion, 1862; Llanfair, D. C., 1866.

<sup>1</sup> During the incumbency of Mr. Denman.

<sup>2</sup> Chief contributors, Mr. and Mrs. Yale, Mr. Mainwaring, Major Ffoulkes, Mrs. Lloyd of Rhaggatt, Mr. Beyer, Diocesan Board of Education.

<sup>3</sup> V. St. Martin's, 1747.

<sup>4</sup> P. C. Llandegwyn, 1748; R. Mallwyd, 1755.

<sup>5</sup> R. Bettws-Gwervyl Gôch, 1755; R. Llanfihangel G. M., 1760.

<sup>6</sup> R. Gwaunysgor, 1742-60; R. Llandegla, 1760.

<sup>7</sup> R. Llangar, 1796.

<sup>8</sup> V. Llanarmon yn Ial, 1820.

\* R. Llandegla also.



## LLANDEGLA.

IN this parish are two townships,<sup>1</sup> Llandegla and Trefydd Bychain, with an area of 3,390 a. 3 r. 6 p., of the rateable value of £1,349 15s., and a population of 416.

From the early controversy between Bishop Anian II and the Abbot of Valle Crucis in 1273 respecting the patronage of the churches appropriated to that house, we find that Llandegla was then regarded as a capella or chapelry of Llangollen, and as such belonged to the abbey;<sup>2</sup> to the abbot of which the bishop granted two-thirds of the tithes of Bryneglwys, in order that the tithes which he derived from this parish might be resigned to the vicar,<sup>3</sup> who thenceforth became rector. Hence we find in the *Taxatio* of 1291, "Ecclia de Landegla taxat' £5:6:8 dec. 10s. 8d.";<sup>4</sup> and in the *Valor* of 1535, "Rector valet clare £8:12:3 inde pro xma parte regi 17s. 2½d. The value of the tithes by the Commutation<sup>5</sup> was £116; there are also nine acres of glebe, but no house; one is provided, however, by Sir Hugh Williams, Bart., the present owner of Bodidris, rent free. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The church, dedicated to St. Tecla, "Virgin and martyr, who after her conversion by St. Paul suffered under Nero at Iconium",<sup>6</sup> and whose festival was on Sept. 25th, was rebuilt on the old site, slightly enlarged, in 1866, by Margaret Dowager Lady Willoughby de Broke, the founder of the beautiful new church at Bodelwyddan. The chief interesting features of the old church were a western doorway with carved capitals, which has been removed; an octagonal font with panels of various designs rather roughly executed, and a handsome brass chandelier, of somewhat similar design to that at Llanarmon, but with the figure of the Virgin surmounting, and not as there enshrined within the brackets. Both of these are retained in the new church, which is on the plan of a chancel with a vestry on the north side and a nave with a south porch having an outer but no inner door. The east window of three lights with rather heavy decorated tracery, and with its peculiar stained glass, was transferred hither from the

<sup>1</sup> There appears to have been formerly a third, viz. Bodlwydd.

<sup>2</sup> Suprà, p. 43.

<sup>3</sup> "Concessio duarum partium ecclesie de Bryneglwys Madoco Abbati et Conventui de Valle Crucis per Anianum Ep'um Ass'. Ita tamen quod porcio de Llandegla quam ipsi habeant redeat in usum vicarii ejusdem loci."—*Llyfr C6ch*, 44A.

<sup>4</sup> It was soon after this that the ancient Pandy was erected, *e. g.*, "Conventio inter L' Ep'um et David G6ch de conficiendo apud Llandegla fornace panerario. Dat' 1305."—*Llyfr C6ch*, 102A.

<sup>5</sup> Moduses, in lieu of tithe hay, were paid by Hafod Bilston, 1s. 6d.; Trefydd Bychain, 5s.; Graig, 3s. 6d.; and Pentrebwlch, 1s. 6d.

<sup>6</sup> Pennant, *Tours in Wales*, ii, p. 15.

cathedral on the restoration of the latter and the rebuilding of this church. The glass, which is in a curious modern style, represents our Lord with circumstances of the Passion on either side. The chancel has a paneled reredos in wood with tables of the Creed, Lord's Prayer and Commandments, an open fireplace on the north side, and the pulpit and desk on the south.

St. Tecla's Well, Ffynnon Degla, in Gwern Degla, a short distance from the church, used to be famous in former times for the curious customs and superstitions connected with it, which indicate a Romano-pre-Christian origin and the heathen worship of Æsculapius. "About 240 yards from the church riseth a well, called Tecla's Well, with the following letters, AGAT:G.<sup>1</sup> In this well people that are troubled with convulsive fits or falling sickness, called St. Tecla's evil,<sup>2</sup> do use to wash their hands and feet, going about the well three times, saying the Lord's Prayer thrice, carrying in a handbasket a cock, if a man; and a hen, if a woman; offering four pence in the said well. All this is done after sunset; then going to the churchyard after the same manner, go about the church, saying the Lord's Prayer thrice, getting into the church sleep under the communion table with the church Bible under their heads, and the carpet to cover them all night till break of day. Then offering a piece of silver in the poor-box, and leaving the cock or hen in the church, they again repair to the well and perform as above. They say several have been healed thereby," 1710.<sup>3</sup> This custom continued until at least the middle of last century, for in 1749 the rural dean "gave strict charge to the parish clerk at his peril to discourage that superstitious practice, and to admit none into the church at night on that errand." The well still exists, but its reputation has long ago past away; it is now difficult to reach, and I failed to find any traces of the old inscription. "Croes Tecla" formerly stood on the borders of Llangollen parish. This parish shares jointly with Llanarmon in an educational charity, founded by Madam Margaret Vaughan of Bodidris and Robert Jones Brewer of London, who in 1746 gave a tenement, called Bodlowydd Vychan, containing 29 a. 2 r. 7½ p., subsequently increased by an allotment of eighteen acres under the Llanellidan Enclosure Act, in trust for the education of eight children from Llanarmon and four from Llandegla, and the surplus towards an apprenticing fund. In the year 1777 a school-house was built by subscription, and in 1816 it was enlarged at the expense of the charity. A new school in connection with the same charity, and in lieu of the old one, is now in course of erection at the cost of Sir Hugh Williams, Bart. From the income of the charity twelve pounds each are given to Llanarmon and Llandegla.

Some small benefactions to the poor, amounting in all to £21, have been lost.

<sup>1</sup> This seems to have been a portion of a monumental inscription in Lombardic characters: ....(HIC) ACET C... <sup>2</sup> Clwyf Tecla.

<sup>3</sup> MS. Book Z. Compare the custom at Ffynnon Dier in Bodvari.

## RECTORS.

1537.—Lewis Gethin	1675.—JONES, Edward
1554.—Griffith ap Ie'nn	1677.—WILLIAMS, John <sup>6</sup>
1556.—David ap Edward	1685.—ROBERTS, Edward
1564.—YALE, David, D.D. <sup>1</sup>	1709.—PRICE, J.
1573.—Reginald ap David	1718.—EVANS, Simon, M.A. <sup>7</sup>
1574.—JONES, Robert	1731.—PRICE, Robert, B.A. <sup>8</sup>
PARRY, Henry, A.M.	1739.—JONES, Simon <sup>9</sup>
1597.—PIGOTT, Richard <sup>2</sup>	1751.—LEWIS, Ambrose Thelwall <sup>10</sup>
1606.—MEREDITH, J. <sup>3</sup>	1753.—DAVIES, Richard
1608.—PARRY, Gabriel, B.D. <sup>4</sup>	1760.—YALE, John, B.A. <sup>11</sup>
1609.—ROBERTS, Humphrey	1789.—WILLIAMS, Robert <sup>12</sup>
[1653.—POWELL, William]	1796.—DENMAN, John <sup>13</sup>
1662.—JONES, Hugh	1831.—WILLIAMS, Ebenezer
1668.—JONES, Maurice, B.D. <sup>5</sup>	1869.—EVANS, Thomas Henry <sup>14</sup>

1870.—OWEN, John, St. Bees; Deac., 1863; Pr., 1864; C. Llanarmon yn Iâl, 1863; C. Llandrillo yn Edeirnion, 1865.

## LLANFERRAS.

PENNANT derives this name from the dedication of the church to St. Berres or Britius, a disciple of St. Martin the Hungarian, and his successor in the bishopric of Tours, whence Edwards, in his edition of Browne Willis, calls it Llanverres or Llanbrise; this latter name, however, occurs in no early account or MS. Another name in the neighbourhood intimately connected with it, whatever be its true origin, is that of "Bwlch Pen Barras," the pass on the old mountain road to Ruthin.<sup>15</sup>

The parish embraces a total area of 3,738 a. 0 r. 11 p.;<sup>16</sup> of which 2,960 a. 3 r. 11 p. are titheable; its rateable value is £2,999, and the population 777.<sup>17</sup>

The *Taxatio* returns "Ecclia de Lanverreys taxat' Rectoria £3, Vicaria £3:3:4 non decimant'," and a few years later, in 1310, we

<sup>1</sup> Preb. of Faenol, 1578; Preb. of Chester, 1582; Chancellor of Chester, 1622.

<sup>2</sup> V. Llangernyw, 1606; R. Denbigh, 1614. <sup>3</sup> V. Whitford, 1608.

<sup>4</sup> Head Master of Ruthin School, 1607; R. Llangynhafel and Precentor of Bangor, 1632.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llanychan, 1690; R. Cerrigydrudion, 1697; Canon, 1702.

<sup>6</sup> V. Cwm, 1668. <sup>7</sup> V. Llanarmon, 1731. <sup>8</sup> V. Llangollen, 1737.

<sup>9</sup> P. C. Llandysilio, 1734. <sup>10</sup> Canon, 1779. <sup>11</sup> R. Gwaunyngor, 1748.

<sup>12</sup> R. Llangar, 1796. <sup>13</sup> V. Llanarmon, 1820. <sup>14</sup> V. Llanwyddyn, 1870.

<sup>15</sup> There is also in Ruthin itself a place called "Pen Barras".

<sup>16</sup> Eighteen hundred acres of waste land were enclosed in 1793.

<sup>17</sup> Much reduced, since the census, by the stoppage of Maesysafn Mine.



have a notice of the union of the two, by the institution of a rector to the three parts or portions into which, as usual, the church was divided.<sup>1</sup> The *Valor* of 1535 has "Rectoria de Llanverrous valet clare 13 : 9 : 4 pro dec. regi £1 : 6 : 11½." The Commutation in 1837 gave the tithes as valued at £308 ; to which £17 per annum have to be added from the rectorial tithes of Cilcain, by virtue doubtless, as in the case of Northop, of some early but otherwise forgotten connection. The rectory house, which was bought in 1813, and subsequently rebuilt and enlarged, has a glebe of 15 a. 1 r. 33 p. Patron, the bishop of Llandaff, by virtue of the late transfer from St. Asaph.

The church, which was in a great measure rebuilt about the year 1772,<sup>2</sup> is in the form of parallelogram with a south transept, added in 1843, and a western tower, beneath which is the entrance, the upper portion being surmounted by an open circular campanile. The east window of five lights contains stained glass, in illustration of St. Paul at Athens, with the evangelistic emblems and sacred monograms, and bears the inscription "Anrheg plwyfolion Llanferras a chyfeillion eraill er côf am y Parch. I. Davies A.C. Curad y Plwyf hwn 1844." The octagonal font is dated 1684. There are two galleries, one at the west end containing *inter alia* the old parish chest, with many interesting parochial records, and the other in the transept. The principal mural tablets are those to Edward Jones of Colomendy, 1685 ; Richard Garnons, 1841 ; and Catherine Jones Garnons of the same place, 1845. The east wall is said to have been repaired by the learned Dr. John Davies, rector of Mallwyd and prebendary of Llannefydd, a native of this parish, on the ground of an inscription on a stone in the eastern gable "I. D. STD. 1650". From this date, however, it is evident that it was done after his death, which occurred in 1644 ; and therefore it must have been at his expense. Beneath this stone and above the window there is a shrine with a trefoil canopy, which also may have been removed hither on that occasion. Some extracts taken from the old parish books throw further light of much interest on the history of the building, *e. g.* "1728, ordered that the beam across the chancel be taken down for ye necessary conveniency and ornament of ye church." 1729, reading seat, pulpit, and clerk's seat erected ; also the church seats arranged. 1730, "ordered and agreed that a certain block or piece of stonework, supposed to be the basis or pedestal of some popish image, lying near the rails of the south side of the altar, be taken down as useless and no buttress to ye east wall of ye said church, nor any way tending to the ornament of the church, and that the same with the consent of the ordinary be taken in as an addition to a settle belonging to Edward Jones of Colomendy." Also "Ordered

<sup>1</sup> "Institucio ad porcionem R. de Llanferreys, viz. 3 partis exceptis edificiis, et institucio 3 partes ejusdem, et sunt 3 partes ejusdem exceptis edificiis."—*Llyfr Côch*, 5A.

<sup>2</sup> "Chiefly by the bounty of Mrs. Catherine Jones of Clomendy."—*Pennant*, ii, p. 28.

that the old reading seat be sold to the best bidder and accordingly it was sold at this vestry to George Latch of Mold for ye sum of one pound three shillings." In the year 1731 we find a curious attempt at imposition recorded. A drover, pretending to have been robbed of £102, threatened to bring an action against the Hundred of Yale; the vestry appointed their representatives in the case and agreed to stand by them either in paying their quota or in standing a trial, as might be decided. The Hundred through its several parishes resolved to oppose the case, and so the drover withdrew his action. There are in the churchyard two or three fine old yew trees, and also a beautiful early coffin lid ornamented with a floriated cross, and bearing a shield with the Warren arms.

"The Free School" was erected by Mrs. Catherine Jones of Clo-mendy and by her transferred in 1764 to the rector of the parish and the vicars of Llanarmon and Mold in trust, for the purposes of a parish school, and at the same time endowed by her with a rentcharge of £5 10s. on the Brynford Hall estate, and the charge of its repair and re-erection laid upon the Colomendy estate. On the same occasion John Wilson, Esq., granted a piece of land as a garden to the school-house and added to the endowment a rentcharge of £4 on Tynywern. To this must further be added a moiety of the interest of £992 18s. (plus £11 : 9 : 8 of unclaimed interest added to the principal) also the benefaction of Mrs. Catherine Jones of Colomendy, amounting to £15 : 1 : 3, and £1 : 6 : 9, the interest of £44 13s., the produce of a subscription.

The charities for the poor comprise—

1. The other moiety of the interest of Mrs. Catherine Jones's gift, viz., £15 : 1 : 3.
2. Another benefaction by the same lady, charged on Ty-yn-y-wern by John Wilson, Esq., £2.
3. Bread money charged on Colomendy estate, £2 8s.
4. The interest of £87 : 8 : 3 compensation money paid by the Ruthin Turnpike Trust to Mr. Charles Potts of Glanyrafon, and by him given to the poor, £2 2s.
5. Interest of £20 : 2 : 3, bequest of Mrs. Edwards of Maesygroes, 12s.

In the upper part of the parish, near Erryrys, is a field called "Cae yr Hen Fynwent", indicative of the existence of a former church, but of which nothing further is now known.

#### RECTORS.

— LLOYD, Lewis	1579.—Evan ap Ie'n
1536.—John ap Lewis	1586.—GRIFFITH, Thomas <sup>1</sup>
1537.—LLOYD, J.	1606.—PRICE, Fulk, B.D. <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> V. Caerwys, 1575-1606.

<sup>2</sup> R. Cerrigydrudion, 1597-1614; Prebendary of Llanfair, 1599; V. Gresford, 1609-13; R. Llandrinio, 1613; S. R. Cwm, 1616.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1609.—GRIFFITH, Ithel <sup>1</sup>      | 1743.—TAMBERLANE, R., A.B. <sup>9</sup>     |
| 1616.—MORGAN, Evan, B.D. <sup>2</sup>   | 1766.—PHILLIPS, John, A.B.                  |
| 1644.—MEREDITH, John, B.D. <sup>3</sup> | 1780.—PUGH, Edw. Vaughan <sup>10</sup>      |
| 1660.—ROBINSON, John <sup>4</sup>       | 1781.—JEFFREYS, John, LL.B. <sup>11</sup>   |
| 1673.—SMITH, Thomas, B.D. <sup>5</sup>  | 1789.—PARRY, Edward <sup>12</sup>           |
| 1691.—JONES, William <sup>6</sup>       | 1805.—WILLIAMS, Richard, M.A. <sup>13</sup> |
| 1723.—JONES, William <sup>7</sup>       | 1811.—WYNNE, Ellis, A.B. <sup>14</sup>      |
| 1725.—JONES, Hugh, M.A. <sup>8</sup>    | 1821.—CLOUGH, Ch. B., M.A. <sup>15</sup>    |

1854.—OWEN, James Richard, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Deac., 1835; Pr., 1836; P. C. Rhyl, 1836-54.

### LLANARMON YN IAL.

THIS extensive parish comprises thirteen townships: one in Flintshire, viz., Bodidris, formerly subdivided into Bodidris Treuan and Bodidris Rhiwbarth, and the rest in Denbighshire, viz., Bodigre yr Iarll, Bodigre yr Abbot, Chwileriog, Gelligynan, Creigiog uwch glan, Creigiog isglan, Alltgyrmyd, Trellan, Banhadlen, Cyfnant, Gwaunyffynnon and Erryrys. The total area is 1,1651 a. 2 r. 38 p., and its rateable value about £8,000. A portion, however, of Erryrys, Cyfnant, and Gwaunyffynnon has been assigned to the new district of Erryrys, leaving to the mother church a population of 1,107.

In the middle of the twelfth century Bodidris was the residence of Llewelyn ap Ynyr, who so distinguished himself at the battle of Crogen

<sup>1</sup> R. Caerwys, 1596; Canon, 1614.

<sup>2</sup> V. Llanrhaiadr yn Mochnant, 1588-1612; V. Mold, 1612-16; S. R. Caerwys and comportioner of Llansanan, 1614-15; R. Denbigh, 1615-21; Canon, 1616; Preb. Meifod, 1617.

<sup>3</sup> Buried under the altar, Sept. 23, 1660.

<sup>4</sup> V. Rhuabon, 1673; R. Erbistock, 1680.

<sup>5</sup> V. Chirk, 1680; R. Marchwiall, 1691.

<sup>6</sup> Also Lecturer at Ruthin. Buried in churchyard, 1723.

<sup>7</sup> Exchanged for vicarage of Hope with Hugh Jones.

<sup>8</sup> Son of the first William Jones; Canon, 1739; Preb. Llanfair, 1741; V. Gresford, 1743.

<sup>9</sup> P. C. Flint, 1726; V. Llannefydd, 1730.

<sup>10</sup> R. Llansantffraid Glyn Dyfrdwy, 1771.

<sup>11</sup> V. Rhuddlan, 1754-1800; V. Choral, 1756-59.

<sup>12</sup> R. Llangar, 1784-89. Father of Thomas Parry, D.D., Bishop of Barbadoes, 1842-70, and of John Humphreys Parry. (Suprà, p. 455.)

<sup>13</sup> Of Fron. Many graceful translations from the Welsh bards, by his pen, are given in Pennant's *Tours in Wales* and Jones' *Relics of the Bards*.

<sup>14</sup> P. C. Pentrevoelas, 1787.

<sup>15</sup> V. Mold, 1825; Archdeacon of St. Asaph, 1844; Dean, 1854.



in 1165 that he received from his prince a grant of Gelligynan also. The effigy of his son Gruffydd ap Llewelyn, who was buried at Valle Crucis, was transferred at the dissolution to this church, where it now lies against the south wall. Probably it was he who made a grant of lands here to that abbey, as we early find among the lands belonging to that establishment the names of Alchun (Alltkymbyd) Butugre and Creaccauc vel Kreugant<sup>1</sup> (Creigiog). In 1247 a controversy arose between the sons of Jeuaf ap Meredydd and the abbot and convent concerning the boundaries of their respective lands between "Crevauc" and "Alhdkenbeber," which was settled by the abbey paying five pounds and the others resigning all further rights.<sup>2</sup> The arbitrators on this occasion being Griffith and other sons of Madoc and Ernri (!) son of Griffith. This last was probably the same with Griffith Vychan son of Griffith ap Madoc, who a few years later, A.D. 1278, granted to Anian I and the see of St. Asaph some lands lying between the brooks Ceveth and Nantyr erw fordyn and Mynydd Barnauc,<sup>3</sup> which lands still belong to the see and constitute the episcopal manor of Llandegla.<sup>4</sup>

The *Taxatio* of 1291 returns the value of "Ecclia de Lanarmaun" as Rectoria £10 dec. £1, Vicaria £4 : 1 : 8 dec. 8s. 2d.; and an entry in *Llyfr Côch*, A.D. 1305, shows the respective townships at that time assigned to the rector, who happened to have been the bishop and to the vicar.<sup>5</sup> The rector's portion, "Villa de Bodugre, Villa de Alltkembeber, sub petra Bodidris, pars Chwileriog supra viam ducent' versus Llanarmon, Tertia Llanbadlun, Kevenfenit, Gwenffynnon, et hæ sunt partes episcopi." The vicar's, "Kelligynan, Llanarmon, Erreres, Kerigioch et residuum ptis Dni Lewelini Dei gratia' Assavens. Epi de Chwyleriog sub petra predicta et ptis dni Epi de Alltkembeber supra petram." An appropriation of one of these moieties, clearly the rectorial, was made in 1336, but the object is not stated.<sup>6</sup> The *Valor Ecclesiasticus* 1535 makes no mention of any appropriation as then existent, but simply returns the rectoria as worth £31 : 14 : 8 dec. Reg. £3 : 3 : 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and the vicaria as £12 : 5 : 8 dec. £1 : 4 : 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ , but there is one notable item among the particulars of this latter, viz. the Offerings made before the Image of Garmon £1 10s.,<sup>7</sup> with which the no-

<sup>1</sup> *Llyfr Côch*, 65B.

<sup>2</sup> Deed in *Arch. Camb.*, 1848, p. 228, copied by W. W. E. W. from the Hen-gwrt MSS. A Llewelyn ap Ynyr is one of the witnesses.

<sup>3</sup> Browne Willis, ii, p. 29, App. viii.

<sup>4</sup> It was sold during the Commonwealth, but recovered at the Restoration.

<sup>5</sup> "Participationes decimarum inter D'num Ep'um firmarum rectorie de Llanarmon yn Ial et vicarium ejusdem ecclesie an'o D'ni m'mo ccc'o quinto." —*Llyfr Côch*, 91.

<sup>6</sup> Pat. 9 Edw. III. "De medietate ecclesie de Llanarmon approprianda."

<sup>7</sup> "In oblationibus coram imagine S'ti Garmon' xxxs."

tice of Leland, some five years later, well coincides, that "great pilgrimage and offering was a late to St. Armon."<sup>1</sup>

In Bishop Barrow's Act for the Union of Sinecure Rectories to their Vicarages, A.D. 1678, it was provided that from the next vacancy in the rectory of this parish "all the gleab lands and parsonage-house thereof shall be thenceforth added to the endowment of the vicarage."<sup>2</sup> The Commutation returns show some variation from the arrangement of 1305, *e. g.*

	Rector.			Vicar.			Par. Clerk		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Gelligynnan, Chwileriog, Alltgyrmyd, Ban-									
hadla, Gwauny-Ffynnon, Trerllan, Creig-									
iog uwchglan, and Erryrys	-	-	455 0 0	...	...	7 0 0			
Bodidris	-	-	6 16 8	...	2 10 0	...			
Cyfnant	-	-	-	...	37 3 11	...			
Bodigre yr Abbot and B. yr Iarll	-	-	-	...	186 10 0	...	4 0 0		
Creigiog is glan	-	-	-	...	19 6 0	...	0 10 0		
			£461 16 8		£245 9 11		£11 10 0		

On the death of Luxmoore, the last sinecure rector in 1860, the rectorial tithes passed to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who have therefrom augmented the vicarage with £76 5*s.* per annum, by order in council, dated 28th July, 1864, and endowed the new parish of Erryrys with £385:11:8 per annum. The present value of the vicarial tithes is £343:14:11,<sup>3</sup> together with a vicarage-house built in 1825 and 50 a. 0 r. 20 p. of glebe. The patronage belongs to the bishop.

The church is dedicated in honour of the famous Gallican Bishop Garmon or Germanus, who is said to have celebrated divine service on this spot before engaging with the Pelagian hosts when he gained the Alleluiaic victory, at Maes Garmon, near Mold. The festival or wake was held on August 1st. The church, which was partially rebuilt in 1736 and restored in 1870,<sup>4</sup> follows the usual type of a double church of two equal parallelograms, and is divided by an arcade of four-centred arches supported on octagonal pillars of oak.<sup>5</sup> Portions of the ancient bands of carved work still remain in the chancel roof; and a beautiful brass chandelier of the fifteenth century with a figure of the virgin in a central shrine is kept in the vestry, which has recently been formed by screening off the eastern end of the south aisle; another object of interest preserved in it is one of the old parish chests, a second being in the north aisle near the western door. Open seats have been substituted throughout for pews, and the chancel somewhat extended

<sup>1</sup> Itinerary, v, 35.

<sup>2</sup> Br. Willis, ii, p. 156.

<sup>3</sup> Inclusive of £22 per ann. from Erryrys, in consideration of enclosed land given up to it for glebe.

<sup>4</sup> Architect, Mr. Douglas, Chester. Cost about £700. Chief contributors, Bishop Short, J. Carstairs Jones of Gelligynnan, and the Diocesan Church Building Society.

<sup>5</sup> Before the restoration they were round unwrought trunks.

and fitted for the choir, a reredos of tiles ornaments the east wall. The pulpit is an octagonal one of oak, with lines of the tooth and fleur-de-lis ornaments, and stands upon a stone base. The font is a small circular bowl upon a baluster pediment, "presented by Edw. Thelwall of Llanbedr, 1734." A small window on the north side containing stained glass representing the Evangelistic emblems, is memorial to "Samuel Francis and Thomas Moss of Rhyd isaf, 1869," and on the same wall a memorial brass to Wilson Jones of Gelligynan, Cefn Coch, and Hartsheath, was put up by his widow, on the restoration of the church, 1870. In the south aisle are some interesting monuments, especially the mailed effigy of Gruffydd ap Llewelyn ap Ynyr, brother of Bishop Llewelyn ap Ynyr, already referred to; and another of Sir Evan Lloyd of Bodidris, a direct descendant of Gruffydd; it is dated 1639, and is remarkable for the richly coloured heraldic shields with which it is adorned.<sup>1</sup> On the same wall there is also an armorial tablet to another Sir Evan Lloyd of the same place, who died in 1700. In the outside of the same wall there is imbedded in an upright position the once recumbent effigy of an ecclesiastic,<sup>2</sup> which is conjectured to have been that of John Lloyd, of the same house, Abbot of Valle Crucis in 1480,<sup>2</sup> but probably of much earlier date.

In 1746 Margaret Vaughan of Bodidris and Robert Jones of London gave a tenement called Bodlowydd Vychan in Llanellidan, containing 29a. 2r. 7½p., to which an allotment of 18 acres has been added in trust for educational and apprenticing purposes, in the proportion of eight children from this and four from Llandegla parishes, but one half to be taught at each place. In 1777 a school-house was erected in Llandegla, at which eight children from this parish were taught free, to which a small allotment of 14 perches has been made, and a new school is now in course of erection. A school was built here in 1777, and rebuilt in 1843. The rental of the above endowment is £37 per annum, which is expended in educating twenty-four boys, and apprenticing them at the age of fourteen, as opportunity and the funds in hand allow.

The general charities for the poor consist of—

1. Tenement called "Rhos," in Bodigre-yr-Iarll 7 a. 2 r. 38 p., to which an allotment of 1 a. 0 r. 19 p. has been added, bequeathed by Mary Meredith, £8.

2. Interest of sale of small additional allotment to above, 3 r. 36 p., 8s. 8d.

3. Rentcharge on Rhosdigre, unknown donor, 3s.

<sup>1</sup> This was formerly under the east window of the south aisle, but removed in 1870 to its present position, a south window being closed for its reception. It is described in the *Arch. Camb.* for 1859, pp. 205, 206.

<sup>2</sup> For illustrations of these effigies and the chandelier, see *Denbighshire Village Churches*, Plate 25.

<sup>3</sup> Pennant says it has done duty for St. Garmon.



4. Consolidated charities £130 : 7 : 7 on Wrexham and Ruthin and Mold, and Denbigh turnpike trusts,
5. Rent charge of "Nantypalment," purchased for £97.
6. Rent-charge on Gwauny Fynnon by Griffith David Lloyd, 14s. 6d.
7. " Cefn Gwyn by Edward Williams, 1726, 5s.
7. Rent-charge on Rhiw-yr-allt by Robert Roberts of Nerquis, 1740, 4s. 4d.
8. " Erwgoch in Erryrys, 1763, 4s.
- Lost a rent-charge of 4s. per annum on Plas yn Pant.

## SINECURE RECTORS.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1317.—Howel <sup>1</sup>                  | 1684.—LLOYD, Bishop <i>in com.</i>          |
| 1389.—Meyvot <sup>2</sup>                 | 1686.—BACKHOUSE, Isaac, A.M. <sup>9</sup>   |
| 1537.—STANDISH, Alexander                 | 1687.—EYTON, Owen, A.M. <sup>10</sup>       |
| 1538.—FAYREWELL, I. <sup>3</sup>          | 1688.—MAURICE, David, D.D. <sup>11</sup>    |
| 1554.—Ellis ap David <sup>4</sup>         | 1702.—DAWES, Thomas <sup>12</sup>           |
| 1560.—ROGERS, Robert                      | <i>Bishops in commendam :</i>               |
| 1562.—ROGERS, Richard <sup>5</sup>        | 1759.—LUSHINGTON, H., D.D.                  |
| 1595.—WILLIAMS, John, D.D. <sup>6</sup>   | 1779.—EYTON, John, A.M. <sup>13</sup>       |
| 1621.—GOODMAN, Godfrey, D.D. <sup>7</sup> | 1782.—SHIPLEY, W. D., M.A. <sup>14</sup>    |
| 1626.—DU MOULIN, Peter, D.D. <sup>8</sup> | 1826.—LUXMOORE, J.H. M., M.A. <sup>15</sup> |

<sup>1</sup> Was returned, in conjunction with Madoc Gôch, Canon, to the Parliament held at Carlisle.

<sup>2</sup> "Pro anima Magistri Meyvot nuper rectoris Ecclesie de Llanarmon."—Bishop Child's Will, 1389; B. Willis, ii, 101.

<sup>3</sup> S. R. Llansantffraid yn Mechain, 1537-38.

<sup>4</sup> V. Mold, 1565.

<sup>5</sup> Archdeacon of St. Asaph and *Bishop Suffragan of Dover*, 1560; Dean of Canterbury, 1584.

<sup>6</sup> Fellow of All Souls', Oxford; Margaret Professor of Divinity, and R. Llandrinio, 1594; Principal of Jesus College, 1602; Dean of Bangor, 1605. Published a *Concio ad Clerum*, and a treatise of Roger Bacon's on old age, *De retardandis Senectutis Accidentibus*.

<sup>7</sup> Dean of Rochester, 1620; *Bishop of Gloucester*, 1624; supra, p. 330.

<sup>8</sup> Chaplain to Charles II, and Prebendary of Canterbury. He published *A Vindication of the Protestant Religion*, 1668; thirteen Sermons, and several Tracts upon different subjects, 1684.

<sup>9</sup> S. R. Northop, 1687; V. Haselingfield, near Cambridge.

<sup>10</sup> V. Corwen, 1665; S. R. Corwen, 1666; Canon of St. Asaph, 1685; Treasurer of Bangor Cathedral, 1689.

<sup>11</sup> V. Llanasa, 1666; R. Gwytherin, 1675; V. Abergele and Bettws, 1684; Preb. Faenol, 1691.

<sup>12</sup> V. St. Mary's, Shrewsbury.

<sup>13</sup> Comportionist Rector of Westbury, Salop; R. Erbistock, 1744-55.

<sup>14</sup> Son of Bishop Shipley; Chancellor of the Diocese, 1773; Dean, 1774.

<sup>15</sup> Son of Bishop Luxmoore. S. R. Whitford and P. C. Moreton, 1823; V. St. Martin's and R. Marchwiall, 1824; Prebendary of Meifod, 1826.

## VICARS.

1537.—David ap Rhys	1680.—PRICE, Peter
1540.—Thomas Dare	1683.—DAVIES, Griffith
1556.—Ellis ap David <sup>1</sup>	1710.—PENNANT, Hugh
1567.—VAUGHAN, William <sup>2</sup>	1731.—EVANS, Simon, M.A. <sup>4</sup>
1580.—GWYN, David	1753.—VENABLES, John, B.A.
1594.—PRICE, I.	1782.—EDWARDS, Edward, A.M. <sup>5</sup>
1627.—LEWIS, Richard	1820.—DENMAN, John <sup>6</sup>
1634.—OWEN, Ellis <sup>3</sup>	1831.—EVANS, Evan, A.B. <sup>7</sup>
[JONES, John]	1851.—JONES, John, A.M. <sup>8</sup>

1668.—JONES, Robert Griffith, St. Bees ; Deacon, 1854 ; Pr., 1855 ;  
C. Llanarmon, 1854-59 ; Rhuddlan, 1859-68.

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 ERRYRYS.<sup>9</sup>

THIS district was formed out of a portion of the townships y Erryrys, Cyfnant, and Gwaunyffynnon in Llanarmon by an order in council, Oct. 11th, 1861. The population is 824. The endowment, which from the consecration of the church was £150 per annum, was augmented by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners out of the sinecure tithes of the rectory to £385 : 11 : 8 per annum, by an order in council 28th July, 1864. In order, however, to secure a site for a house and a glebe to attach to it £22 per annum of the above were transferred to the vicar of Llanarmon in exchange for an allotment (with the tithe thereon £1 : 11 : 2) belonging to him, of 27 acres, which with the £365 : 2 : 10 per annum now forms the endowment. The house was erected in 1867 at a cost of £1,050 (exclusive of the stable and

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<sup>1</sup> V. Mold, 1565.

<sup>2</sup> S. R. Llanrhaidr yn Mochnant, 1574-80 ; R. Cerrig y drudion, 1587 ; Preb. Llannefydd, 1598.

<sup>3</sup> Ejected, but reinstated after the Restoration.

<sup>4</sup> R. Llandegla, 1718-31.

<sup>5</sup> V. Cilcain, 1772. He published a new edition of Browne Willis' *Survey of St. Asaph*, in two volumes, 1801.

<sup>6</sup> R. Llandegla, 1796.

<sup>7</sup> V. Pennant, 1826-51 ; V. Bettws yn Rhos, 1858. He translated into Welsh a small catechism of *Instruction in the chief Feasts and Fasts of the Church*, collected by the Rector (J. H. M. L.).

<sup>8</sup> Translated into Welsh Bishop Short's *What is Christianity ?*

<sup>9</sup> This name is probably formed of "Erw-Gyrus", i. e., the acre or plough-land of Gyrus, a famous sage of early times, whose genial sayings, "Mad-waith hen Gyrus o Iâl", formed the nucleus of Dr. John Davies' of Mallwyd's collection of proverbs given in his Latin-Welsh Dictionary.

garden added by the rector) of which sum £500 were given by the commissioners and £500 borrowed from Queen Anne's Bounty. It is in the patronage of the Crown and the Bishop alternately.

The church, St. David's, was consecrated Nov. 25th, 1863, the foundation stone having been laid on the 12th Sept. in the previous year. It is a small edifice, calculated to accommodate 213, and consists of nave and apse,<sup>1</sup> with vestry and porch on the north side, designed by Mr. T. H. Wyatt. The site was presented by the very reverend R. B. M. Bonnor, Dean of St. Asaph, and towards the cost of erection, £1,250, the following subscriptions were given:—£200 each by the Incorporated and the Diocesan Church Building Societies; £100 each by Bishop Short, Wilson Jones, Esq., Archdeacon H. Chambres Jones and sister jointly, and the Carey Fund; and £50 by the Rev. John Jones, the vicar of Llanarmon.

*Rector.*—1862. OWEN, John, B.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Deac., 1852; Pr., 1853; C. Eglwys Rhos, 1852-62.

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<sup>1</sup> The chancel-step is 1,123 feet above the level of the sea, the highest elevation of any church in the diocese.



## THE DEANERY OF OSWESTRY.

THIS deanery was formed, in 1844, by the subdivision of that of "Marchia", as given in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of Henry VIII, A.D. 1535, and corresponds with the more ancient deanery of that name given in the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas, A.D. 1291. It comprises the following :

Mother Parishes.	New Ecclesiastical Parishes.	School Churches, Chapels of ease, and Mission Rooms.
Kinnerley Knockin Llanymyneich St. Martin's - - Melverley	The Lodge	
	Holy Trinity	{ Aston Chapel { Maesbury Sch. Ch.
Oswestry - - {	Moreton Rhydycroesau Trefonen	
	- - - -	{ School Chapel { Morda House of Ind.
Selattyn - -	Hengoed - -	
Whittington -	Frankton - -	{ Chapel of Ease at Ebna { „ Domestic at Park { „ Extra Par. at Halston.

### KINNERLEY.<sup>1</sup>

THIS parish includes the townships of Kinnerley, Argoed, Dovaston, Edgerley, Kynaston, Osbaston, Maesbrook ucha, Maesbrook isa, and Tir y Coed, embracing an area of 5,880 acres, of the rateable value of £7,617, with a population of 1,312. In early times it also included Knockyn, until the latter was formed into a separate cure about the year 1200. Some time before 1248 the advowson of this church had been granted to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, who had their headquarters for North Wales at Halston. The grantor

<sup>1</sup> *Kynardynllej* in the *Taxatio* of 1291, *Kynarddeleg* in the trial of 1292.

was either Griffin Gôch, son of Gervase Gôch, *Latinarius*, or interpreter, to Henry II, or his son Madoc de Sutton; for the father presented the last rector, and the son survived the time when the Hospitallers were in possession: hence, in the *Taxatio* of 1291, the impropriation is recorded, but the value not given, as that Order was exempt from its provisions. The following year, however, the advowson was claimed by James or Nicholas de Audley, who brought an action against the Prior of the Hospitallers, and pleaded that ever since the death of Madoc ap David, clerk, the church had been vacant, and that the presentation now belonged to him as lord of the manor, but that the Prior hindered him from presenting, thereby involving him in a loss of £20. The result, however, was that the advowson remained with the Hospitallers, who reckoned its value in 1338 as worth £8 per ann.<sup>1</sup>

The vicarage, though not mentioned in the *Taxatio*, must have existed here as much as in other appropriations; and from another source we learn that it was in the patronage of the Bishop of the diocese,<sup>2</sup> as was the rule in similar cases; but how or when it passed out of his hands is not stated. In the Feodary of 1397-98, however, the advowson of the demesne tithes is given among the possessions of Richard, the late attainted and executed Earl of Arundel; and these may have been given to the vicarage in consideration of the transfer of the patronage to it. In the *Valor* of 1534-35 the vicarage is returned as worth £7:6:8; "inde pro xma parte d'no regi debet' 14s. 8d."; the rectory as appropriate to the Commaundry of Hawston, and there returned as worth £20 per ann. After the dissolution of that Order, the rectorial tithes which it had possessed passed by grant or purchase to the hands of a Mr. Smith of Gloucestershire in 1710, and Mr. Hyde, of West Hatch in Wiltshire, in 1736. The commuted value of the several tithes, vicarial and rectorial, with their present holders, is as follows:

Townships.	Vicarial. £ s. d.	Rectorial. £ s. d.	Impropriators
Kinnerley, Argoed } Dovaston, Edgerley } Maesbrook ucha }	107 15 0	{ 406 7 0 ... 30 2 6 ...	Late Mrs. Tayleur. Several holders.
Osbaston . . .	17 5 0	120 0 0 ...	Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Pugh.
Kynaston . . .	11 0 0	{ 60 0 0 ... 1 0 0 ...	J. F. Harrington. Late Mrs. Tayleur.
Maesbrook isa . .	25 0 0	103 2 6 ...	Mr. R. J. Croxon.
Tir y Coed . . .	9 0 0	{ 50 0 0 ... 1 9 0 ...	Mr. Richard Downes. Eccles. Commissioners, <sup>3</sup>
	£170 0 0	771 13 0	

<sup>1</sup> Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*, xi, p. 28.

<sup>2</sup> "Recognitio Magistri Ednevet, Prioris Johannis de Jerusalem in North-wall: quod presentatio ad vicariam de Kinnardinlle pertinet ap Ep'um Ass. et semper pertinuit."—*Llyfr Coch*, 44A.

<sup>3</sup> This payment used to be made to the Bishop of St. Asaph.

There is a small glebe house<sup>1</sup> and about thirty acres of land. Patron, the Lord Chancellor.

The church, St. Mary's<sup>2</sup> (Sept. 8), rebuilt in 1790, consists of a single body with a semicircular apse, and the old Perpendicular tower at the west, which was happily not taken down on that occasion. The previous church had been of two aisles with their respective chancels, and was probably coeval with the tower, which "was restored in 1862 in memory of Lilla, wife of E. W. O. B., vicar." The material of the church is the local red sandstone, the windows round-headed, the roof ceiled and plastered, and the interior pewed. The apse has its east window blocked up by tables of the Commandments, done in composite imitation of oak; and on the north wall an armorial tablet with a Latin inscription, in memory of the Right Rev. John Bridgeman, Bishop of Chester, "qui iniquitate temporum quibus factio et usurpatio valebant, ab episcopali sede depulsus, ad ædes filii sui apud Morton se contulit." A small inlaid brass in the floor beneath marks his burial-place; and another on the wall commemorates the wife of the vicar, 1861. The apse has been laid with tiles, and a new chancel-arch inserted. The opening of the fine tower-arch has been a great improvement internally, while externally the tower with its battlements, buttresses, and quaint gurgoyles, forms the striking feature of the district. The old parish chest stands in the north-west angle of the nave; and near it the new octagonal font with its panels carved with emblems of the Holy Trinity, the gift of E. W. O. B., vicar. In the *Archæological Journal* (i, p. 161) there occurs a notice of a portion of an old octagonal font which was rescued from destruction by a gentleman passing the church at the moment when some workmen were breaking it to pieces to mend the churchyard-wall. It bore an inscription in Greek, which read backwards and forwards the same: Νύσον ανομματα μη μοναν οψιν, i. e., "wash away the transgressions, not the countenance only"; an inscription sometimes inscribed also upon ewers, dishes, and other kinds of vessels used in baptismal ceremonies both in England and on the Continent.<sup>3</sup>

The School was built in 1857, at a cost of £800, furnished by subscriptions among the landowners and inhabitants.

The list of parochial charities embraces the following items with their donors:

<sup>1</sup> The terrier of 1710 mentions a house and glebe, about nineteen (acres?), tithes of *Lanuchfian* (?) and the *Sputty Yard*, also *herbage for foreigners* of 1s. 8d. per ann. This last item probably represents the tithe of sheep other than the Abbot's own pasturing in Caldecote Grange, for which see Knockin.

<sup>2</sup> An earlier dedication I take to have been to St. Bridgid or Ffraid, as on that day the parishioners of Knockin were required to attend this the mother church with their oblations, and to pay an annual pension of twelve pence to the rector.

<sup>3</sup> The fragment, with its palindrome, is now in the grounds of Mr. Dovaston at Westfelton.



1. PAYNE, Richard, M.A.,<sup>1</sup> John, and Edward, rentcharge of £1 10s. upon Llwynygo.
2. THORNES, Edward, Nicholas, Roger, and Thomas, ditto of £1 5s. upon Brockist.
3. KYNASTON, — ditto of 10s.
4. MORGAN, Henry, ditto of 10s. upon estate in Molverley.
5. TREVOR, Mrs. Elizabeth, rent of £3 upon field in Molverley.<sup>2</sup>
6. HANMER, — rentcharge of £2.
7. Anon., rent of £2 : 17 : 6 upon Poor's Land, two acres.
8. GETHIN, Roger, ditto, £3 10s. upon field in Tiryoed.
9. HICKIN, John, rentcharge of 10s.
10. FARMER, Esther, rent of £5 15s. upon parcel of land in Abbey Foregate.
11. DYOS, Margaret, rentcharge of 2s. 6d.

Other benefactions mentioned on the table in the church: *e. g.*, Richard Jeffreys, £10; John Atkis, £5; David Matthews, 40s. per ann.; and David Davies, 10s. per ann.; seem to be included in some of the above.

## VICARS.

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1537.—ATKINSON, John               | 1668.—PAYNE, Edward, M.A. <sup>6</sup>     |
| 1540.—JEMYS, William               | 1672.—STANLEY, Thomas                      |
| 1556.—JOHNS, William <sup>3</sup>  | 1675.—GETHIN, Hugh                         |
| 1557.—AP ROBERT, John <sup>4</sup> | 1678.—BILLINGSLEY, John                    |
| PRICE, John                        | 1685.—CLAPHAM, Thomas                      |
| 1581.—EATON, John                  | 1721.—COOK, Thomas, A.M. <sup>7</sup>      |
| 1606.—COWLEY, Anthony              | 1731.—LLOYD, Evan, A.M. <sup>8</sup>       |
| 1613.—MORRIS, Griffith             | 1754.—LLOYD, Richard <sup>9</sup>          |
| 1629.—KYNASTON, Ralph <sup>5</sup> | 1759.—PRITCHARD, David, A.M. <sup>10</sup> |
| — [SMALMAS, I.]                    | 1795.—KYNASTON, Edward, B.D. <sup>11</sup> |
| 1662.—STANLEY, Robert              | 1834.—EDWARDS, Turner.                     |

1849.—BRIDGEMAN, Edmund Wolryche Orlando, M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge; Deac., 1848; Pr., 1849.

KNOCKYN.<sup>12</sup>

UNTIL near the end of the twelfth century this was a portion of Kinnerley parish; but between 1182-95, Radulphus Extraneus (Ralph L'Estrange) founded the "Chapel of Knockyn", and gave the patronage thereof, with its appurtenances, for ever to Haughmond Abbey;

<sup>1</sup> Vicar of Kerry.

<sup>2</sup> Purchased with her bequest of £50.

<sup>3</sup> V. Pennant, 1557.    <sup>4</sup> R. Llanymyneich.    <sup>5</sup> Preb. of Llanfair, 1624.

<sup>6</sup> Head Master of Oswestry School, 1636; R. Cemmaes, 1661.

<sup>7</sup> R. Whittington, 1718.

<sup>8</sup> V. Llansantffraid yn Mechain, 1724.

<sup>9</sup> V. Llanbrynmair, 1722; R. Knockin, 1727.    <sup>10</sup> R. Pontesbury, Salop.

<sup>11</sup> Baronet, King's Chaplain; R. Risby and Fornham, Suffolk; R. Hordley.

<sup>12</sup> "Cnwecyn", a small mound.

and between 1197-1200 his successor, John L'Estrange, gave and confirmed to the said Abbey the "new Chapel of Knockyn, with the ground whereon it was built, and with free access, and with all its appurtenances and obventions." Their respective shares in the tithes were settled about the same time by a charter of Bishop Reyner, which ordered "*quod persona de Knokin tenebit omnes decimas de Knokin et de Norslepe et omnes obventiones earundem villarum præter sepulturam et medietatem testamenti, annuatim solvendo xiid. predictæ ecclesiæ de Kinardeley in festo Sancte Brigide.*" Between 1204-10 Bishop Reyner further confirmed Ralph L'Estrange's grant of the chapel to Haughmond Abbey, and invested Ralph, the Abbot, as its representative; subject, however, to the aforesaid pension to the mother church. About forty years later a dispute arose concerning some of these tithes, which was referred to papal arbitration; and the sentence, passed June 1, 1248, states that "the Abbot released and gave up to Brother Thomas, Master of the Hospitallers, as rector of Kinnerley, certain instruments concerning Kinnerley Church, which had been obtained by his convent, as also the tithes and the *principale legatum* of the whole land of Osbernston; and Brother Thomas, on his part, released to the Abbot all the tithes in dispute (except those of Osbernston), and the *principale legatum* of all parishioners of the vill of Knockin." On St. Brigid or Ffrid's Day the parishioners of Knockin were to attend the mother church with their oblations, and the payment of twelve-pence was to be continued annually. Some few years after this, Matthew, the chaplain, and Eynon Gam, clerk of Kinnerley, released to the Abbey the tithes of a field near Knockin, called "Burgeisefelde", which had previously been in dispute.

On a vacancy in the cure between 1284-93, one Randulphus de Solton took possession of the chaplaincy without any episcopal licence or admission, and appropriated to himself the episcopal dues; whereupon Bishop Anian sequesters the living, and orders the Abbey to make a new appointment. The value of the rectory at the time, according to the *Taxatio*, was £3 : 6 : 8 ; non. dec. In 1310, Thomas, the chaplain, demanded the wool-tithe of all the sheep, not being the Abbot's own, which were in pasture in Caldecote Grange; and this demand was conceded by the Abbot that "he might the more willingly support the burdens incumbent upon the chapel."

About this time (1310) Richard, son of Laurence de Ludlow, either founded, or at least was incumbent of, a "certain new chapel" which was within the bounds and limits of the chapelry of Knockin, and was called "The Chapel of St. John and St. David." The oblations made here causing a loss to those in Knockin, the Abbot of Haughmond appealed to Rome, and the Prior of Chirbury was appointed to adjudicate; but his award is not known. However, in 1330 Brother Richard de Bachesworth, Preceptor of the Knights Hospitallers, certifies that, having examined the Abbot's muniments, he found that the Abbot, as impropiator of the parochial chapel of Knockin, had a right to the new Chapel or Oratory of Saints John and David, situated without the said vill of Knockyn."

In the *Valor* of 1535 we have "Rectoria de Knokyng" returned as worth £5, with no notice of its appropriation. How or when it ceased to be so is not stated. "We may conclude," writes Mr. Eyton, "that the Abbot had either abandoned or been deprived of it, as it remains a rectory to this day."<sup>1</sup> The patron in 1547 (1 Edward VI) appears to have been "The Earl of Derby or Lord Elsmere." It is now the Earl of Bradford. The commuted value is £328 2s., and there is a glebe of 1 a. 32 p., but no house. The rateable value, £2,048; and population, 280.

The church, St. Mary's, which was restored and enlarged in 1846,<sup>2</sup> consists of chancel and nave, with south transept, and western gallery and bell-cot. Some remarkable features bespeak its very early date,—a Norman door on the south of the chancel, a portion of a Norman arcade now built into the north wall of the nave, and a massive Norman font of the same date. A projecting stone in the north wall of the chancel was probably at one time the supporting corbel of an image of the Virgin, in whose memory the church is dedicated; and near it is a small square opening, such as may have served as a leper's window. The east window contains diaper-glass with a small figure of Our Lord in the centre. The chancel is divided from the nave by a low pointed arch, on the north side of which is a brass in memory of Admiral the Hon. Charles Orlando Bridgeman, 1860; and on the south side another to Orlando F. C. Bridgeman, Captain, 2nd Dragoon Guards, who died on his way home from service in India, 1858; and near it a double lancet, with angels and scrolls, in memory of Charles Orlando Henry Bridgeman, who died at Dinapoor in 1847.

Formerly the parishioners had to bury their dead, in accordance with the foundation-grant, in the mother church of Kinnerley, and to maintain part of that churchyard-wall; and it was not until 1817 that this church was enclosed with a wall, and a new burial-ground thus provided. The lych-gate was added in 1872.

"On the perambulation-day they used to go in procession to a well in the fields, where the minister read Our Saviour's discourse with the woman of Samaria at Jacob's Well";<sup>3</sup> and this practice continued until near the end of the last century.

The School was erected in 1834.

#### CAPELLANI, CHAPLAINS, AND VICARS.

1195.—JONAS	— SMART, John <sup>4</sup>
c. 1270.—Matthew	1392.—ADERLEY, Henry de
c. 1284.—Radulphus de Sutton	1537.—PILESTON, John. <sup>5</sup>
1310.—THOMAS	

<sup>1</sup> *Antiquities of Shropshire*, x, pp. 371-77, to which work I am indebted for the whole of the preceding notices.

<sup>2</sup> The east and west ends had been previously rebuilt about 1790.

<sup>3</sup> MS. Z.

<sup>4</sup> Exchanged with his successor for the incumbency of Moreton Corbett.

<sup>5</sup> Licensed to *cura capellæ*.



## RECTORS.

1540.—COWLING, Richard <sup>1</sup>	1685.—WEBSTER, J.
——— COWLEY, Henry	1727.—LLOYD, Richard <sup>3</sup>
1547.—KENYON, Nicholas	1760.—WILDE, Francis <sup>4</sup>
1588.—PHILLIPS, John	1761.—JONES, John, A.B.
1599.—ROBERTS, Robert	1798.—FORRESTER, Townshend
1606.—JERVIS, Thomas	1815.—HANCOX, George
1631.—PRICE, J.	——— KYNASTON, Edward, B.D.
——— ARMSTEAD, Meyrick	1822.—GUNNING, Sir H. J., M.A. <sup>5</sup>
1666.—EDWARDS, John, LL.D. <sup>2</sup>	

1826.—RIDSDALE, Robert, M.A., Clare College, Cambridge; Sen. Opt., 1815; Fellow, 1816-26; Deac., 1815; Pr., 1816; V. Kirdford, 1826-31; R. North Chapel, 1831-34; R. Tillington, 1834; Preb. of Chichester Cathedral, 1835.

LLANMYNEICH.<sup>6</sup>

THIS parish comprises the two townships of Llwyntidman and Treprenal in Shropshire, with an area of 1,280 acres; and that of Carreg Hwfa in Denbighshire, with an area of 1,220 acres; the whole rateable value being £5,897 17s., and the population 1,070.

From the period of the Norman conquest this parish appears to have formed part of the Walcheria of Oswestry, and to have owned the sway of the Fitz Alans. Thus in the Feodary of 1272 John Fitz Alan was the reputed patron of the church, which was worth ten merces yearly; and the advowson of it was assigned as the dower of Isabella de Mortimer, his widow.<sup>7</sup> Anian II, however, Bishop of St. Asaph, deeming the advowson to belong to his see, disputed this right; and though a suit in the *Curia Regis* was decided against him, he appealed to the Pope, and refused to admit Isabella de Mortimer's presentee.<sup>8</sup> Thereupon Edward I met the Bishop's refusal by an order issued in 1282 to the Sheriff of Shropshire to distrain upon his goods.<sup>9</sup> The immediate effect of this seems to have been to confirm

<sup>1</sup> Henceforth *cura ecclesiæ*.

<sup>2</sup> R. Llanymyneich; Preb. of Meliden, 1674; S. R. Hope, 1677; Chancellor of the Diocese, 1683.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llanbrynmair, 1722; V. Kinnerley, 1754.

<sup>4</sup> R. Ryton, Salop.

<sup>5</sup> Balliol College, Oxon.; P. C. Horton, 1826; R. Wigan, 1833-64.

<sup>6</sup> "The village of the miners," copper and lead having been worked here by the Romans.

<sup>7</sup> Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*, x, p. 352.

<sup>8</sup> "Appellacio ex parte Ep'i ad Papam in causa quæ vertebatur inter eum et Isabellam de Mortuomari quondam uxorem Johannis fil' Alani de jure patronatus ecclesie de Llanemeneych."—*Llyfr Coch*, 58A.

<sup>9</sup> "Breve Regis Ed. ad Vice-Comit. Salop. quod distringat bona A. Ep'i

the widow's claim ; but a later result was a compromise, and the final issue the confirmation of the Bishop's right ; for whereas, in the *Taxatio* of 1291, the "Ecclesia" was divided into a "Rectoria" worth £7:6:8 ; "decima," 14s. 8d. ; and a "Vicaria" worth £3:6:8, "non dec.", we find that in 1305, Bishop Leoline de Bromfield, having obtained the rectory from the rector, farmed it out to the vicar, and seven years later received an acknowledgment from Edmund Earl of Arundel of the right of the see to the advowson.<sup>1</sup> In the *Valor* of 1534-35 "Rectoria de Lanemourth" is returned as of the net value of £12:13:4;<sup>2</sup> dec., £1:5:4. In 1735 it was worth in all about £135. The present commuted value is £384 10s.,<sup>3</sup> in addition to which there are twenty-two acres of glebe and a house.<sup>4</sup> Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The church, dedicated to St. Agatha (Feb. 5th), and rebuilt in 1844,<sup>5</sup> after the Norman style, from the designs of Mr. Thos. Penson, consists of chancel and nave, with a tower on the north side and a vestry on the south. The tower is surmounted by a Norman cap, and its base forms a porch ; but the principal entrance is through the west door. The material is the local limestone, with mouldings, jambs, and all the ornamental work, of terra-cotta. The clock, which cost one hundred guineas, was presented by one who, as a youth, ran away from the parish in order to escape serving in the militia, for which he had been balloted, and ended by becoming a distinguished engineer of European fame.<sup>6</sup> Internally the chancel is arcaded on its north and south sides, and has its east window (of five lights) filled with stained glass by Wailes, in memory of Mrs. Luxmoore, wife of the Rector, ob. October 19, 1852. The subjects represent the Birth, Baptism, Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension of Our Lord, with their respective types beneath,—the first Adam, the sacrifice of Isaac, Jonah and Elijah, and the evangelistic emblems and Agnus Dei, in

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Ass. quod non admittat idoneam personam ad ecclesiam de Llanemeneych ad presentationem Isabellæ uxoris Johannis fil' Alani quam contra dictum Ep'um recuperavit in Curia Regis. Dat' a'o regni sui 10."—*Ibid.*, 58B.

<sup>1</sup> "Recognitio Edmundi Comitis Arundel advocacionem ecclesie de Llanemeneych esse jus Lewelini Ep'i Ass. et successorum suorum. Dat' 1312 a'o R. R. Edw. fil. Edw. 6'o."—*Llyfr Côch*.

<sup>2</sup> Yet "on the 8th May, 1535, four commissioners appointed to make such valuations swore the gross value of Llanmynyth parsonage to be only £10, without deducting episcopal dues." (Eyton, x, p. 353.)

<sup>3</sup> Llwyntidman and Trefprenal, £216 10s. ; Carreg Hwfa, £168.

<sup>4</sup> Repaired and materially added to in 1834.

<sup>5</sup> The old church was described in 1749 as "a double building containing a spacious chancel, nave, and north aisle, at the west end of which was a turret with two bells." Still earlier we find that in 1637 twelve new seats in the south side were erected and allotted ; the rector being George Griffith, afterwards Bishop of St. Asaph.

<sup>6</sup> Richard Roberts, of the firm of Sharpe, Roberts, and Co., Manchester.

the upper portions. The window on the west, consisting of three lights, has also been filled with memorial glass by the late Robert Wilson Evans, M.A., Archdeacon of Westmorland, author of *The Bishopric of Souls, Tales of the Ancient British Church*, etc., to the memory of his father, John Evans, M.D., of Llwynnygroes, with subjects illustrative of the Virgin and Child, Christ blessing little children and healing the sick. The font, an old Norman one, formerly belonging to Beachampton Church in Buckinghamshire (having been found by the late Viscount Dungannon in use as a watering-trough), was purchased by him and presented to this church in 1845.

The School, which stands in the churchyard, was erected in 1825, and enlarged in 1872.

The only charity, 1s. 6d. per ann., the interest of £26 left by Thos. Baugh of Crickheath, now in the Oswestry Savings Banks, for poor maidens and widows.

## RECTORS.

1537.—KYFFIN, Richard	1686.—HUMPHREYS, Evan, A.M.
1552.—CUTHBERT, I. <sup>1</sup>	1713.—POWELL, William, M.A. <sup>7</sup>
1557.—AP ROBERT, John	1739.—WYNNE, John, A.M. <sup>8</sup>
1580.—GREGOR, Thomas	1745.—BOUCHERY, Gilbert, A.M. <sup>9</sup>
1625.—WILLIAMS, John, A.M. <sup>3</sup>	1748.—LLOYD, David
1627.—FFOULKES, Robert, A.M. <sup>4</sup>	1764.—NEWCOME, Henry, M.A. <sup>10</sup>
1633.—GRIFFITH, George, B.D. <sup>5</sup>	1764.—LLOYD, Samuel, B.A. <sup>11</sup>
1666.—EDWARDS, John, A.M. <sup>6</sup>	1776.—EVANS, David, A.M. <sup>12</sup>
1685.—LLOYD, Bp. <i>in commend.</i>	1788.—CROWE, W. Saxton, LL.B. <sup>13</sup>

1829.—LUXMOORE, John, M.A., Pembroke College, Cambridge ; Deac., 1825 ; Pr., 1826 ; Vicar of Berriew, 1827.

<sup>1</sup> Canon, 1547.

<sup>2</sup> V. Kinnerley.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanddulas, 1616 ; V. Machynlleth, 1617 ; S. R. Northop, 1624 ; R. Llanfyllin, 1627. Deprived. Preb. of Llannefydd, 1660.

<sup>4</sup> V. Meifod, 1628 ; R. Llanfechain, 1633.

<sup>5</sup> Bishop of St. Asaph, 1660. His wife and daughter were buried here.

<sup>6</sup> V. Cwm, 1633 ; R. Knockin, 1666 ; Preb. of Meliden, 1674 ; S. R. Hope, 1677 ; Chancellor of the Diocese, 1683. The parish Registers date from 1666.

<sup>7</sup> S. R. Llangwm, 1710 ; V. Llanyblodwel, 1713 ; Dean of St. Asaph and S. R. Hope, 1731.

<sup>8</sup> Of Garthmeilio. R. Cerrigydrudion, 1725 ; S. R. Corwen and Canon, 1727 ; Preb. of Meliden, 1734.

<sup>9</sup> Preb. of Meliden and S. R. Llansantffraid, 1746 ; V. Swaffham, 1748.

<sup>10</sup> Nephew to Bishop Newcome. R. Castle Caereinion, 1761-1804 ; R. Llanymyneich, 13 Mar., and V. Gresford, 23 Mar., 1764 ; Preb. of Llanfair, 1766.

<sup>11</sup> V. Berriew, 1753.

<sup>12</sup> V. Choral, 1757.

<sup>13</sup> Fellow of New College, Oxford, and Public Orator, 1784.



## ST. MARTIN'S.

ST. MARTIN'S (*Wallicè*, "Llanfarthin") comprises the three townships of Ifton Rhyn, Weston Rhyn, and Bronygarth; embracing an area of 5,315 acres, of the rateable value of £11,588, with a population of 2,558; out of which, however, a new district was formed in 1870 for "The Lodge", with a population of 1,400.

In William Fitz Alan's confirmation of the grant of Oswestry Church to the Abbey of SS. Peter and Paul at Shrewsbury, "the Chapelle of Martine's Church" is specified as an affiliation or chapelry of Oswestry; and the large glebe which had attached to it passed over, with that affiliation, to the monks. During some border disturbance between 1236 and 1270 this glebe was seized by some Welshmen who afterwards joined in a quitclaim or surrender to the Abbey, wherein they renounced all right in any land belonging to the church, and acknowledge that they had some time occupied such land by their own presumption ("propria temeritate").<sup>1</sup>

Towards the close of Henry III's reign one Llewelyn ap Owen ap Gronw made considerable purchases here, either for Bishop Anian or with a view of making them over to the see; and in 1271 John Fitz Alan III conceded the said purchases to the Bishop and his successors for ever, on the condition of their paying a pair of gilt spurs yearly, on the Feast of St. John the Baptist, at Oswestry Castle, and never alienating the said land from the see.<sup>2</sup> The following year, 1272, the Bishop further acquired for his see the lands which Shrewsbury Abbey possessed here. This was the result of some compromise in the controversy between the Abbey and Walter de Hangmere relative to the advowson of Oswestry. Soon after this (1285-90) Richard Fitz Alan not only confirmed the concession of his father, but also added a further grant of forty-four acres of land, the site of the manor and of the house thereto belonging.<sup>3</sup> This appears to be the portion of the episcopal estate which is described in the *Taxatio* as "apud S'ci Martini et S'ci Leonardi duas carucas cum aliis commoditatibus £1 : 12 : 6."<sup>4</sup> In the year 1402 Owen Glyndwr, in order to avenge himself upon Bishop Trevor, burnt down his manor-house here<sup>5</sup> as well as those at St. Asaph and Bodidris. In the *Valor* of 1535 it is put down as on a lease, for twenty shillings per annum, payable to the Bishop.<sup>6</sup>

On the breaking out of the civil wars, and the confiscation of the

<sup>1</sup> Salop Cartulary, No. 368, in Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*, x, p. 361.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, x, 363, and *Llyfr Côch*, 25B.

<sup>3</sup> *Llyfr Côch*, 44B.

<sup>4</sup> Another copy has "duas carucas et tres bovatas terre cum aliis comodit'," £21 : 6 : 8.

<sup>5</sup> *Suprà*, p. 67. Some of the earlier bishops resided here, as appears from the dates of many of their grants, etc.

<sup>6</sup> "Manerium S'ci Martini ad firmam per ann' dimittit," 20s.

episcopal revenues, we find that on "May 9, 1649, two messuages, in St. Martin's, co. Salop, were sold to Will. Fell and Jonathan Tilcot for £195 10s." On the Restoration, however, they appear to have been recovered, for there are in the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners about eighty acres of episcopal land rented at about £100 per annum. There is also in their hands a tenement called "Mitre Farn", consisting of seventy acres, and rented at £100, which used to belong to the Dean and Chapter of Winchester.

Meanwhile the rectory, which had passed, with the appropriation of the Church of Oswestry, to the Abbey of Shrewsbury, was returned in the *Taxatio* as worth £6 per annum, nett £5, dec. 10s. ; and yet ten years later, 1301, we find the abbey's tithes let for 20 mercs, *i. e.*, £13 : 6 : 8, or more than double that return. Again, in 1490 they were valued at £16 per acre ; but in the *Valor* of 1535 at £15 : 13 : 4, and let on lease or at farm for £10. On the dissolution of the abbey these tithes devolved to the Crown, by whom they were probably granted, like those of Oswestry in 1611 to Frances Morrice and Frances Phillips. They were next purchased by the Earl of Craven,<sup>1</sup> who made his nephew William, earl and afterwards marquis of Powis, his heir ; and from him they descended to that Earl of Powis who ordered them in his will to be sold, which was done in 1801. Their commuted value was £862, and their present holders with their respective amounts are as follows :—Lord A. E. Hill Trevor as successor to Lord Dungannon, £330 ; Mr. Thomas Barnes the Quinta, by purchase from Hon. F. West, £36 ; Rev. J. C. Phillips of Tynyrrhos, £56 ; Mr. Dickin of Tyndwr, £270 ; hay tithes purchased by Mr. Barnes from Mr. E. Morrall, £170.

The vicarial tithes were valued in 1291 at £3 : 6 : 8 and exempt from decimation, and in 1535 at £10 2s. gross or £9 : 8 : 8 nett, decima 18s. 10½d., one of the largest items being the offerings made on the festival day.<sup>2</sup> The Reformation probably made a great alteration in this last item, and in 1684 we find the vicar, in a curious and interesting Latin epistle to Bishop Lloyd, complaining of the meagreness of the vicarial income, which did not amount apparently to much more than fifteen pounds and three acres of glebe.<sup>3</sup> It was probably in consequence of this representation that in 1691 the Bishop [then of Lichfield] and his successor in this see assigned to the augmentation

<sup>1</sup> "Carius eas emit, ut ait." Vicar Thomas to Bishop Lloyd, 1684. G.

<sup>2</sup> "De oblacionibus in festo S'ci Martini, £2 : 16 : 8."

<sup>3</sup> Only three of the villis paid tithes to the vicar. The Easter offerings of St. Martin's were now only £1, and the whole tithe of lambs and wool throughout the parish only £6. "Una pars ovium et agnorum sæpissime per totam parochiam pluviiis et nivibus perit. Altera pars a vulpibus et canibus devoratur. Tertia pars lanæ et agnorum inique et fraudulenter decimatur. Plerique greges ovium et agnorum quotannis plerumque pereunt. Reliquæ oves cum agnis plerumque venduntur ne pereant, ut emptoris, non retenturi, damno pereant."—MS. G.

of this living with those of Guilsfield, Pool, Buttington, Meifod, and Chirk the remainder of the lease of the confiscated rectories of Pool, Meifod, and Guilsfield, which were held by the Marquis of Powis, then an outlaw for his faith.<sup>1</sup> In 1704, December 20th, an indenture was signed between the executors of the last will and testament of John Jones and Sir John Trevor and his sons for the payment of £10 10s. yearly to the vicar of St. Martin's;<sup>2</sup> and this sum is still paid, being charged upon Penybryn in the township of Ifton Rhyn. In 1731 again a benefaction of £200 from Queen Anne's Bounty was made to meet a similar sum from other sources,<sup>3</sup> and the whole invested in 1734 in the purchase of a farm at Marchwiall, called "Berthen Gron", containing about 27 acres, and now rented at £50 per annum,<sup>4</sup> in addition to which there are also 23½ acres of glebe in the parish of St. Martin's. The commuted value of the vicar's tithes is £261 and the gross income about £374 and a house.<sup>5</sup> The patronage, which previously belonged to the bishop of the diocese, was transferred in 1861 to the Bishop of Llandaff, from whom it passed by exchange to the Lord Chancellor, and has finally been sold by him to Lord A. E. Hill-Trevor, M.P.

The church, dedicated to St. Martin of Tours, the friend of St. Hilary of Arles, has two festivals or wakes, November 11th in memory of his burial, and July 4th in memory of the translation of his body from Cande to Martinople or Chateau Neuf. It comprises chancel and nave, undivided from each other, with a western gallery and a north aisle. A fine tower containing three bells stands at the west end of the south aisle, and a small vestry at the east end of the northern one. The Rural Dean's Report for 1749 mentions a handsome altar piece, a rood loft between the body of the church and the chancel, a long gallery running east and west, a handsome service of plate, viz., a silver gilt flagon, chalice and paten, and a small silver cup for visiting the sick, and ends with a recommendation to have the church ceiled. From an inscription over the west door we learn that the church was repaired and adorned in 1841 at the cost of Lord Dungannon.<sup>6</sup> A stained window in the north aisle further records the names of the bishop, rural dean, and vicar at the time. The removal of the plaster from the chancel ceiling in the year 1843 brought to light the old paneled woodwork with its carved bands and bosses, which have been renewed; and much domestic woodwork inserted for preservation along the walls of the church.<sup>7</sup> The old

<sup>1</sup> MS. G.

<sup>2</sup> Fol. Coll., i, 168. Drummond.

<sup>3</sup> £100 each by the Rev. Stephen Parry and Mrs. Ch. Jones (a legacy).

<sup>4</sup> The outbuildings were burnt down in 1870, and rebuilt by the Vicar partly out of insurance money, and partly out of his own pocket.

<sup>5</sup> Built by Vicar Stephen Parry, and improved in 1819 by Vicar Bourke.

<sup>6</sup> "Templum quod conspicias Deo sacrum sumptu suo instauratum atque ornatum Hæredum curæ commendavit Arturus Vice Comes Dungannon, A. S. MDCCCXLI."

<sup>7</sup> The figure of St. Martin was also brought in from the old porch.



chancel is indicated by the Early English character of the two easternmost arches, as distinguished from the four centred ones of the three western bays, by the closed priest's door on the south, and a north doorway where the vestry now stands. In this is preserved the fine old parish chest with its iron bands and triple lock.<sup>1</sup>

The font, an octagonal with panels ornamented with emblems of the Trinity, was re-wrought under the supervision of the Rev. John Parker, vicar of Llanyblodwel. Two stained windows by Evans of Shrewsbury, representing respectively St. Peter and St. Paul, and St. James and St. John, were inserted by Lord Dungannon, who was also the donor of the representation of the "Lord's Supper" in Berlin iron on the north side of the altar. The organ by Walker of Tottenham Court Road was purchased in 1857. In 1844 the tower arch was reopened, in 1862 the east end rebuilt, and in 1869 the west end of the north aisle. An addition to the churchyard was consecrated August 4th, 1858.

A school was founded at "Bryngwyla" many generations ago by William ap Royd, a merchant-tailor of London, who bequeathed £100 for that purpose, but the interest has been kept back for many years. A sum of £2 10s. per annum out of Price's Charity is paid to it. In 1850 a new school with master's house was erected by subscription, etc., in the populous hamlet of "The Lodge", at a cost of upwards of £700. And in 1872 another new school for boys and girls has been built at the cost of Lord A. E. Hill Trevor, the patron, on a site near the church at St. Martin's, which had been conveyed by the late Viscount Dungannon to the vicar and churchwardens of the parish.

The almshouse for six poor women, founded by one of the Trevors of Brynkinallt and endowed with an annual payment of £2 12s., with bread, coals, and a suit of clothing for each of the inmates, is in the management of the heirs of the founders.

The other charities consist of—

£2 rentcharge on Brynkinallt, by Trevor.

£1 5s. „ Preesgwyn property,<sup>3</sup> by Anon.

£4 10s. rent of two houses at Sontley in Marchwail.<sup>4</sup>

£2 10s. balance of £5 charged on Trehowel, by Price.

15s. charged on Nant Farm, Selattyn, for bread, by Lloyd.

10s. for the same purpose, charged on Gledrid, by Anon.

#### VICARS.

— HOLBECHE, J.	1560.—MATTHEW, John, A.M.
1540.—Robert ap Meredith	1575.—VAUGHAN, J.
1556.—Robt. ap Gruffydd ap Rhys	1584.—David ap Rice ap Jenn

<sup>1</sup> It was broken open many years ago, and the chalice, paten, and cup stolen.

<sup>2</sup> A duplicate of the one presented to Llanrwst parish church.

<sup>3</sup> For this see under Selattyn.

<sup>4</sup> Possibly purchased with the benefactions of Ab. Ellis, Phillips, and Anon.

1588.—ROBERTS, John <sup>1</sup>	1726.—JONES, Morgan
1589.—POWELL, Robert	1730.—PARRY, Stephen, A.B.
1602.—DAVIES, J.	1745.—PARRY, Randolph, A.B. <sup>4</sup>
1613.—HUGHES, Lewis	1747.—LLOYD, Richard
1633.—WILLIAMS, Walter <sup>2</sup>	1776.—WILLIAMS, William, M.A. <sup>5</sup>
1665.—JONES, John, B.D. <sup>3</sup>	1788.—DAVIES, William
1667.—THOMAS, William	1803.—BOURKE, John Wm., A.M. <sup>6</sup>
1689.—WILLIAMS, Richard	1824.—LUXMOORE, J. H. M., M.A. <sup>7</sup>
1720.—HUGHES, Edward	1826.—BICKERSTAFFE, R., M.A. <sup>8</sup>

1842.—HURST, William, M.A., Clare College, Cambridge ; Deacon, 1836 ; Priest, 1838 ; Curate of Wainfleet, 1836 ; Curate in charge of Tuxford, Notts, 1838 ; R. Boylestone, diocese, Lichfield, 1840.

### THE LODGE.

THIS district was formed out of the parish of St. Martin's by an order in council, dated August 9th, 1870, and comprises the townships of Bronygarth and Weston Rhyn, with an area of 2,484 acres and a population of 1,400, occupied partly in coal mining, partly in agriculture.

The church has not yet been built, but divine service has been regularly performed since November, 1869, in the National Schoolroom, a pretty ecclesiastical building erected in 1850 from the designs of Mr. R. Kyrke Penson, at a cost of £750,<sup>9</sup> to which an addition was made in 1870 at a further cost of £130.

An endowment has been provided from the following sources :—

1. A tithe rent-charge of £48 : 9 : 6, arising out of the township of Duddleston in Ellesmere parish, purchased with about £1,100, the proceeds of a bazaar and subscriptions.

2. An annual payment of £50 by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners

<sup>1</sup> V. Corwen, 1578 ; R. Cerrigydrudion, 1581 ; R. Erbistock, 1585 ; S. R. Llandrillo yn Rhos, 1602.

<sup>2</sup> Deprived, but again restored. V. Mold, 1665.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llansilin, 1667 ; Canon, 1681 ; R. Selattyn, 1682.

<sup>4</sup> Canon, 1746 ; V. Llanyblodwel, 1747 ; R. Llandyssil, 1753 ; V. Guilsfield, 1755.

<sup>5</sup> Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge.

<sup>6</sup> V. Oswestry, 1807.

<sup>7</sup> S. R. Whitford and P. C. Moreton, 1823 ; R. Marchwiall, 1824 ; S. R. Llanarmon yn Iâl and Preb. of Meifod, 1826.

<sup>8</sup> Exchanged this with his successor for Boyleston rectory, diocese of Lichfield, 1842.

<sup>9</sup> Chief subscribers, F. R. West, Esq., Quinta ; Rev. J. C. Phillips, Tynnyrhos ; and Rev. W. Hurst, V. St. Martin's ; Committee of Council, £127 ; National Society, £40.

in consideration of a sum of £1,696, the result of a bazaar, private gifts, etc., paid over to them by Lord A. E. Hill Trevor of Brynkinallt, in whom the patronage is vested.

3. The interest of the above sum of £1,696 at the rate of  $3\frac{1}{4}$  per cent., raising the total income to £168 per annum.

*Vicar*.—1870, ELLIOT, Frederick Roberts, M.A., Exeter College, Oxon; Hon. 4th Cl. Math. 1862; Deacon, 1864; Priest, 1865; Curate of Steeple, 1864-6; Tormohun, Torquay, 1866-9.

### MELVERLEY.<sup>1</sup>

THIS is a small parish with a population of only 214.

In Saxon times the manor was held by one Edric, and after the conquest by Rainald, the lieutenant of Roger de Montgomery. Ecclesiastically, it was at that time and long afterwards most likely an outlying portion of Kinnerley.<sup>2</sup> No notice, however, of it occurs either in the *Taxatio* of 1291, or in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1534-5. After the Reformation it came to be held with Llandrinio, probably from its proximity, and gradually to be regarded like Llandysilio as a subject chapelry, and was consequently held *in commendam* by the bishops of the diocese as rectors of Llandrinio from the time of Bishop Griffith to the death of Bishop Carey in 1846, when it was constituted into a distinct rectory and endowed with its own tithes, commuted at £176 2s. (besides £3 10s. to the parish clerk). A rectory house was erected in 1848 at a cost of £520, and there are six acres of glebe. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The Church of St. Peter's is one of the most curious and interesting in the whole diocese, the framework being of timber strongly bound together longitudinally and compacted internally by two rude and massive frames of beam work, which divide the body of the church into chancel, nave, and antechapel; the interior spaces of the walls being filled in with wattle and dab, the most primitive form of lath and plaster, save only at the east end, which appears to have been rebuilt of brick in the year 1718.<sup>3</sup> One of the frameworks serves as a screen and divides the chancel and nave into two nearly equal parts;

<sup>1</sup> "Mal-vôr-le", i. e., the sea-like place, being, from its low situation, often flooded by the Severn and Vyrnwy, whose waters unite at a little distance below the church. Possibly this may be the "Amhafal ar Avaerwy" (the junction with the Vyrnwy) of Llywarch Hen's elegy, "Marwnad Cynddylan."

<sup>2</sup> In the township of Tir y Coed, in Kinnerley, are three pieces of land still belonging to this parish.

<sup>3</sup> An inscription on the framework dividing chancel from nave, states that "This church and steeple were rebuilt, and the galleries and pews made, An'o Dom. 1718."





*Molverley Church.  
Looking East. D*



*Halston Chancel.*



the other, in addition to forming an antechapel, serves the further purpose of supporting a gallery and a bell turret. An old inscription on a wooden panel beneath the gallery reads "Ex dono Edwardi Thomas A. Dom. 1588." The seats were originally open benches, to which in 1718 doors were attached and they were converted into somewhat clumsy pews. The font is octagonal and old. The windows are small and square, and the porch at the south-west end leads into the antechapel.<sup>1</sup>

The charities comprise—

1. Rent of Poor's lands 3 a. 1 r. 4 p., distributed in coals, £5.
2. Rent-charge upon Lloyd's Farm, by Morgan, 10s.
3. Ditto D. Jones's Farm, by John Peers, 5s.

*Rector*.—1847, ROGERS, Henry, B.A., Jesus College, Oxon; Deacon, 1830; Priest, 1838; Curate of Ruyton of the Eleven Towns, 1830-32.

## OSWESTRY.

"DYFRYNT Meisir Mygedawg," *i. e.*, the fine broad plain of Meisir, is named by one of the earliest of the British bards as a great battle-field of the Lloegrians (Saxons) and Britons, in which the latter lost some of their ecclesiastical privileges, as well as much of their ancient territory.<sup>2</sup> A generation or two later it was again the scene of a fierce struggle between Penda of Mercia and Oswald of Northumbria,<sup>3</sup> in which the latter is said to have been slain and his mangled remains crucified, in derision of his Christianity, upon a tree, thence called "Oswald's Treou," on the very spot where he had knelt to pray

<sup>1</sup> There is a tradition that the church was at one time longer, having been partly swept away by a flood; and certainly its nearness to the river, and the massive construction of the framework, seem to support such a probability. But the plan of the building seems, on the other hand, to be consistent with itself, and militates against the tradition.

<sup>2</sup> Llywarch Hen, A.D. 550-640, in his elegy on Prince Cynddylan:

"Eglwyssau Bassa collasant eu baint  
Gwedy diva o Loegyrwys  
Cynddylan ac Elvan Powys."

<sup>3</sup> Oswald was the son of Ethelfrith of Northumbria, who slaughtered the monks of Bangor is y Coed, and defeated Cadwallawn at the battle of Caer-digoll; but was himself deprived of his throne by Edwin, son of Ella, who in his turn was slain at Hethfield in 632 by Cadwallawn with the aid of his brother-in-law, Penda, king of Mercia. Two years later Cadwallawn was slain at Denisbourne by Oswald, who resolved to satisfy his revenge and extend his conquests by advancing against Penda, with whom he engaged at Maserfield, where he himself was slain.



before engaging in the battle.<sup>1</sup> However consonant with the savage character of the age this act of barbarity may have been, it may also have been nothing else than the later embellishment of the story to account for the earlier British form of the name "Croes Oswallt," a form commonly adopted to mark the earliest mission stations, as Croes Engan, Croes Wylan, Croes Ati, Croes Oneiras; and it is worthy of notice that in Whitford parish also there occurs a "Ffynnon Oswallt" with its "Bryn y Groes" close by. The scene of the battle has generally been assumed from the similarity of the name "Maserfelth"<sup>2</sup> to that of "Maesbury" to have been nearer that hamlet; but a local tradition points out the field called "Cae Nef" (Heavenfield), a little to the south of the parish church, as the actual spot. A short distance to the north of this spot is "Caer Ogyrfan" (the camp of Gogyrfan or Old Oswestry) supposed to be named after Gogyrfan, an otherwise unknown hero, but which I cannot help translating as "Caer-y-Gyrddfan," or the Camp of the Field of Conflict. The strategic value of this site is in every way much greater than that of the low marshland of Maesbury, and though the subsequent "mere" or Boundary Foss, called Watt's Dyke, runs through both equally, still we have in the one case the requisite features that are wanting in the other, for a great and important border town or "Meresberie," such as we find indicated in Domesday; from whence also the Hundred took its name of "Mersete," and probably the Cantref its Trefred, a name which further lies at the bottom of "Marchia" and its ruling "Marchers." Wherever this "Meresberie" may have been it was at some distance from the church and vill, as was the case also at Denbigh, Ruthin, and elsewhere; but contrary to the usual practice the civil and military were here transferred or attracted to the ecclesiastical site,<sup>3</sup> for according to the earliest historical notice we learn that before the year 1086 Warren, Lieutenant of Earl Roger of Montgomery, granted to the monks of St. Peter's in Shrewsbury "the Church of St. Oswald, with the tythes of the same Vill;"<sup>4</sup> and about the year 1086 Rainald, the successor of Warin, built the castle.<sup>5</sup> From this time then we may consider the new Vill with its church and castle to have entirely superseded the older site, whether at Old Oswestry or Maesbury, and as an instance of the influence of the Lords Marchers upon the ecclesiastical arrangements of the period, it

<sup>1</sup> Bede's account is not altogether consistent. (Bk. iii, 6-12.)

<sup>2</sup> Another place that has been looked upon as the scene of the battle is Makerfield, near Winwick, in Lancashire.

<sup>3</sup> Of this too Leland, in his *Itinerary*, v, 39, records a sort of tradition that the present is not the original site of the church, which he assigns to Llanvorda. "At Llanvorda ther was a chirch now decaid. Some say this was the parochie chirche of Oswestre."

<sup>4</sup> "Guarinus Vice-Comes dedit eis ecclesiam S'ti Oswaldi cum decima ejusdem ville."—Eyton's *Shropshire*, x, p. 319.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

is curious to "note that the charters of Bishops Clinton and Durdent which confirm respectively the Church of Album Monasterium with its chapels and its pension of 30s." and "the Church of Album Monasterium with its tithes and appurtenant chapels" to the monks of Shrewsbury, prove that in the first half of the twelfth century Oswestry was accounted to be in the diocese of Chester (or Lichfield); and that at that time the diocese of St. Asaph was as uncertainly defined with respect to it as with respect to that of Hereford."<sup>1</sup> These "appurtenant chapels" were not simply such as might have existed at the time within the limits of the modern parish of Oswestry, but included those churches which lay within the extensive district of which it was the ecclesiastical head, a district nearly coextensive with the civil Walcheria, and embracing St. Martin's, Llansilin, and Llan-yblodwel, with one of which moreover the "pension of 30s." may be identified, as it corresponds with one of the items of the endowment of St. John's Hospital, mentioned in its foundation charter as "De Clericis de Llausilin annuatim 30s." Before the end, however, of the century it was again in the diocese of St. Asaph, as we find from the famous Giraldus Cambrensis's account of his journey with Archbishop Baldwin, when the latter visited the place on his preaching tour in furtherance of the Crusades. "The feast of Easter having been observed with due solemnity, and many persons by the exhortations of the archbishop signed with the cross, we directed our way from Chester to the White Monastery,<sup>2</sup> and from thence towards Oswalds-tree, where on the very borders of Powis we were met by Gruffydd, son of Madoc, and Elise, princes of that country, and many others; some few of whom having been persuaded to take the cross (for several of the multitude had been previously signed by Reyner, the bishop of that place), Gruffydd, prince of the district, publicly abjured in the presence of the archbishop his cousin-german Angharad, daughter of Prince Owen, whom according to the vicious custom of the country he had long considered his wife. We slept at Oswaldestree or the Tree of St. Oswald, and were most sumptuously entertained after the English manner by William, son of Alan, a noble and liberal young man."<sup>3</sup> Bishop Reyner appears to have lived for the most part either here or in the neighbourhood, and his name

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<sup>1</sup> *Ibid.* See also *suprà*, p. 43.

<sup>2</sup> Pennant maintains this to be meant for Oswestry; but Bishop Tanner and Sir Richard Colt Hoare declare strongly in favour of Whitechurch, which would not be very much out of the way from Chester to Oswestry. Oswestry was first called Blanc-Minster in 1160.

<sup>3</sup> Giraldus Cambrensis in his *Itinerarium Cambriæ*, edited by Sir R. Colt Hoare. The same writer mentions that twenty years previously (1165), Henry II having entered Powys on the expensive and fruitless expedition which resulted in his defeat at Crogen, near Chirk, some of the Welsh churches, with the villages and churchyards, had been burnt and laid waste by the English army on that occasion.

frequently occurs in the ecclesiastical records of this period of its history. "About the year 1190 William, son of the above William Fitzalan, quitclaimed to Shrewsbury Abbey the advowson of the 'Church of St. Oswald of Album Monasterium,' also two parts of the tithes of his demesnes in the said Vill; which two parts appertained to the building fund of the Church of St. Peter, also the third part of the same tithes, which third part appertained to the Church of St. Oswald, that is, the incumbent thereof."<sup>1</sup> This charter shows, not only as Mr. Eyton in his most valuable work states, that the original partition of the tithes followed the rule laid down in the Laws of Hywel Dda,<sup>2</sup> but that "the Normans here, as elsewhere, took a power to alienate their demesne tithes or parts thereof, and so to deprive the parochial establishment." Bishop Reyner in 1216 conceded the above charter and again in 1222 confirmed it, the concession being made "with the consent of the Chapter of St. Asaph."<sup>3</sup> "Meantime the monks of Shrewsbury had been careful to obliterate a claim to a certain prebend or portion in this church which would seem to have been urged by the then Lord of Powys Fadog. For a certificate in the Abbey Chartulary by Madoc ap Gruffydd declares "that the contention which had arisen between himself and the abbey concerning a certain portion formerly held by one Seysillt in the Church of Album Monasterium had at length been settled on August 17, before Masters Adam Fitz Odo and Richard Seys, vicars for the Bishop of St. Asaph." And he now resigns the said portion into the hands of the said vicars. This surrender was made in the aforesaid church in the year 1217.<sup>4</sup> In the year 1219 "the abbot was no less mindful to get a recognition of his right to the advowson from its temporal lord, John, son of William, son of William Fitz Alan."<sup>5</sup> Soon after this, c. 1221, Bishop Reyner conceded to the abbot, Hugh, twenty merks in the name of a pension out of the Church of St. Oswald, a sum short of the full appropriation, which had not yet come into effect, but which was soon afterwards sanctioned and the church appropriated to the abbot and convent ad proprios usus.<sup>6</sup> The next step was the ordination of the vicarage in 1223. There are several charters relating to this and to the institution of the first vicar. Bishop Reyner instituted one Philip Fitz Leofth to the vicarage, which was thus taxed, "The vicar shall have all oblations, obversions, and small tithes and three messuages in Oswestry. He shall cause the services of the said church to be becomingly performed by two chaplains, and shall be liable to discharge the bishop's synodals and all

<sup>1</sup> Eyton's *Shropshire*, x, p. 335.

<sup>2</sup> "Traian gweini (i'r Effriad teulu), a'r dupart i'r le pan hanfo." (Cyfreithiau Hywel Da; editio 1870, p. 966.) It is noticeable that one of the three manors of which the parish consists is still called *Duparts*.

<sup>3</sup> Eyton's *Shropshire*, x, p. 336. The concession is of the above church and chapel (of St. Martin's).

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, x, p. 337.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*



other burdens, and shall be content with the portion thus assigned. All garbs, hay (*i. e.*, corn and hay tithes), lands, and rents are reserved to the abbey.<sup>1</sup> The above charters, granted respectively by Bishops Reyner, Abraham, and Hugh, and the Chapter of St. Asaph, were inspected and confirmed by Anian I (Bishop of St. Asaph) at Shrewsbury in 1250.<sup>2</sup> These inspections and confirmations appear to have been made in view of a great controversy then going on between the abbey and the temporal lord; for it seems that all the Fitzalans were not equally favourable to the interests of the Shrewsbury monks. John Fitz Alan II was no friend of theirs; and as early as 1228 we find Hugh Folliot, Bishop of Hereford, under a general commission from Pope Honorius III to adjudicate upon and rectify all wrongs done to the abbey and its property, issuing a manifesto relative to its rights as regards Oswestry Church.<sup>3</sup> Again, about the middle of the century several papal bulls and archiepiscopal mandates enjoin the Bishops of Coventry, Hereford, and St. Asaph to protect the abbot and his possessions, and yet more distinctly in a letter dated at Lambeth, Oct. 21, 1260, Archbishop Boniface informs the Bishop of St. Asaph that "Sir John Fitz Alan, Lord of Arundel, had dispossessed the abbey of certain goods and fruits pertaining to the Church of St. Oswald," and enjoins him to compel the baron to make restitution, under pain of ecclesiastical censure."

John Fitz Alan II died in 1267, and was succeeded by his son, the third of the same name, an equally violent opponent of the Shrewsbury abbot and monks, and with him Anian II, Bishop of St. Asaph, appears to have sided. Hence arose suits both in the temporal and in the spiritual courts. The temporal suit was a double one, a "*placitum terræ*" for ejection of the abbot from certain lands, and a "*placitum transgressionis*," that John Fitz Alan had ejected the abbot from his property, had levelled the abbot's houses, and appropriated the abbot's goods to the value of 60 merks." The sheriff was ordered to distrain, but failed, and the death of John Fitz Alan III in 1272 stopped the proceedings.<sup>4</sup>

Meantime a suit of another kind had been pending in the Courts Spiritual. John Fitz Alan III had denied the right of the abbot to the advowson, and in 1269 had presented to it Walter de Hangmere, clerk, whom Bishop Anian II ordered his official for the district of Powys to institute. The abbot at once appealed against this to the archbishop and claimed £200 damages for loss and injury. The Court issued an inhibition and cited the bishop to appear, and afterwards annulled all that he had done. An appeal was made to Rome; notwithstanding which the matter was settled by a private compromise, according to which the abbot was reinstated in the right of advowson, but had to give up to the bishop and his successors all the land which his convent owned at Martin's Church.<sup>5</sup> In 1280 Arch-

<sup>1</sup> Eyton's *Shropshire*, x, p. 337.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> *Llyfr Cŏch*, 15A-20A, 73A-80B; and Eyton's *Shropshire*, x, p. 340.

bishop Peckham when at Tachebrok "inspected several of the above charters and letters of appropriation and justified the abbey in the receipt of a pension of 30s. from the said church."<sup>1</sup> Four years later, in August 1284, the same archbishop commenced here, "in villa quæ vulgariter dicitur Oswaldestre", instead of at the cathedral city, his metropolitanical visitation of the diocese.<sup>2</sup> The *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas made in A.D. 1291 returns the value of the rectoria at 40 merces, *i. e.*, £26 : 13 : 4, dec. £2 : 13 : 4, and the vicaria at 13 merces, *i. e.*, £8 : 13 : 4, dec. 17s. 4d. In 1490 we find from the rent roll of the abbey that the tithes were worth £38 per annum, and from the *Valor* of 1535 that the rectory was by the testimony of the parishioners worth £66 : 13 : 4 (the abbot's contemporary return states the *Ferm* thereof to be only £46),<sup>3</sup> and the vicarage £23 : 15 : 6, indec. regi £2 : 6 : 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ . The *Valor* also notices a free chapel below or within the limits of the parish church, "Libera capella infra ecclesiam de Oswestre"<sup>4</sup> and returns its nett value as £5 16s. dec. 11s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.<sup>5</sup>

On the dissolution of Shrewsbury Abbey by the 31st Henry VIII, this rectory became vested in the Crown, with whom it remained until the time of James I. In the seventh year of his reign, 1611, James I granted it to Francis Morris and Francis Philips, under a reserved yearly fee farm rent of £56.<sup>6</sup> From them it passed, probably by purchase,<sup>7</sup> to William Earl of Craven (son of Sir William Craven, Lord Mayor of London, about 1611), who in 1674 settled the manor or lordship and the rectory upon his nephew William, Earl and afterwards first Marquis of Powis, son of his only sister Elizabeth, who had married Percy Herbert, Earl of Powis; from whom it descended to the Earl of Powis, who died in 1801, the trustees of whose will sold the rectorial or great tithes in 1810 to different purchasers, with the exception of those of the town and liberties, commuted at £211 : 13 : 6, which the present earl in 1872 gave and annexed to the vicarage, and those of the township of Middleton, commuted at £110 : 4 : 6, which at the same time he gave and annexed to the vicarage of Trinity Church, in augmentation of their respective incomes.

<sup>1</sup> Harl. MS. 3868, fol. 8.

<sup>2</sup> *Councils*, i, p. 576, and *suprà*.

<sup>3</sup> The minister's accounts for 1841-42 value them at £56 10s. per annum.

<sup>4</sup> Eyton supposes this to have been "the Chapel within the Castle", which was dedicated to St. Nicholas. May it not more likely have been the Lady Chapel?

<sup>5</sup> A document in the Leiger Book of Shrewsbury Abbey shows that this endowment arose from the tithes of "a curtilage called *Castell Croftes*, a croft called *Wynwallecroft*, a croft under *Redehulle*, a croft called *Chykenwalle*, a croft held by Thomas Llwl, also *Roblemedewe Croft*, with a meadow and the field called *Cadogonesfeld*."

<sup>6</sup> This grant is enrolled in Chancery, and the fee farm rent of £56 is now payable to the Earl of Pembroke. R. J. C.

<sup>7</sup> "Carius cas cmit, ut ait", is said of the similar case of St. Martin's (q. v.).

The following table taken from the commutation returns will show at a glance the value and present holders of all the tithes rectorial and vicarial :

Townships.		Vicarial.			Rectorial.			Appropriators and Impropriators.	
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
Town and liberties of		70	1	6	211	13	6	{ Annexed to the vicar-	
Oswestry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	age in 1872	
Middleton	-	13	0	6	110	4	6	Do. Trinity Ch.	
Crickheath	-	21	1	6	225	0	0	J. R. Kenyon, Q.C.	
Aston, Hisland, & Woot-	}	40	0	0	491	0	0	Major Lloyd	
ton		-	-	-	-	-	-		
Treflach	-	13	10	0	64	0	0	Rowland Hunt, Esq.	
Morton	-	21	0	6	190	1	6	Earl of Bradford	
Sweeney	-	80	3	0	520	0	0	Stanley Leighton, Esq.	
Weston Cotton	-				30	0	0	C. S. Lloyd, Esq.	
Maesbury	-				11	0	0	G. J. D. Lees, Esq.	
					16	0	0	J. Davies, Esq.	
					13	0	0	J. Bentley, Esq.	
					3	15	0	R. Hunt, Esq.	
Llanforda, Trefarclawdd	}	65	0	0	85	3	11	Rector of Rhydygroesau	
and Cynynion		-	-	-	35	1	10	Vicar of Trefonen	
Pentregaer	-				14	15	0	Vicar of Llansilin	
Trefonen	-	2	16	8	5	13	4	Parish clerk, ditto	
					74	5	8	Ecclesiastical Commrs.	
		£326 13 8			£2100 19 3				

The above sixteen townships cover an area of 17,418 acres, and have a population of 11,654; but for ecclesiastical purposes districts have been attached to the new parishes of Trinity, Trefonen, Moreton, and Rhydygroesau, leaving to the care of the mother church "the south-west portion of the town, with the whole of the townships of Llanforda and Weston Cotton, and such part of the township of Sweeney as lies on the north side of the Gwernau lane, up Nantycaws lane to its junction with the township of Treflach, including the hamlet of Morda," with a population of about 5,223.

The vicarial tithes, commuted at £332 : 2 : 2, and augmented in 1872 by those of the town and liberties, now amount to £543 : 15 : 8, but subject to the fee farm rent of £56, repairs to chancel, etc. An annual sum of £54 12s. is paid out of the Phillips charity for an orthodox sermon to be preached on Thursday evenings in the parish church;<sup>1</sup> and in 1872 the Earl of Powis made over to Queen Anne's bounty a sum of £4,000, bearing interest at 4 per cent., to provide a curate or curates for the vicar. There are also 50 acres of glebe now rented at £65 per annum, and a house<sup>2</sup> lately purchased at a cost of

<sup>1</sup> This charity, managed by trustees at Shrewsbury, provides a similar sermon in Shrewsbury, Ellesmere, and Whitchurch; in each of which places, as well as Oswestry, it also provides flannel for distribution in the autumn.

<sup>2</sup> A former vicarage-house is said to have been burnt down in the wars of the Commonwealth.



£2,500, of which £2,000 were contributed by the Earl of Powis,<sup>1</sup> patron of the living, and the remainder raised by the subscription of a few individuals.

The parish church of St. Oswald, August 5th, is first definitely mentioned in 1086 in the Grant of Warin, Vicecomes, already quoted, to the abbot and monks of Shrewsbury Abbey, "dedit eis *Ecclesiam Sancti Oswaldi* cum decima ejusdem ville;" but there is a belief that there was a still earlier one elsewhere than on the present site, which may be due partly to the fact that the town was originally built on some other site, partly to the circumstance that several of the earlier mission stations are still indicated by such names as Maen Tysilio,<sup>2</sup> Croes-Wylan,<sup>3</sup> Cae Groes, and Croes Oswallt or The Cross; and to the tradition which Leland records, that "at Llanforda was a church now decayed. Sum say this was the parochie churche of Oswestre." From the foundation charter of St. John's Hospital (1200-1210) and from the claim of Madog ap Gruffydd in 1217 we further learn that up to that time the church had followed the ordinary rule of all early foundations and was collegiate. But after the institution of a vicar in 1223 it was to be served by himself and two chaplains or curates. During the time the church was in the possession of Shrewsbury Abbey it appears to have been enlarged by the addition of a chapel dedicated, as was the usual custom of the Cistercians, in the name of the Virgin. This chapel, no doubt, occupied the space between the tower and the transept on the south of the south aisle, where in Leland's day still stood the "Monumenta Monachorum," or tombs of the monks.<sup>4</sup> The same writer, who visited Oswestry about the year 1540, adds that "the cloister had been standing within memory;" and that "the churche of St. Oswald was a very faire leddid churche with a great tourrid steeple;" and further records that "there be chapelles clene without the suburbs. One between Stratllan and

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<sup>1</sup> It has been calculated that Lord Powis' benefactions for the improvement of the vicarages of Oswestry, Trinity, and Trefonen, within the last few years, have amounted to upwards of £16,000.

<sup>2</sup> Tysilio was the son of Brochwel Ysgythrog, Prince of Powis, and is believed to have been the second Bishop of Llanelwly, or St. Asaph. Churches in this neighbourhood, founded by him, were Meifod and Llandysilio; and besides the station here, with its adjacent well, he had another missionary station at "Maen Tysilio" in Rhiwlas, Llansilin. He lived a little anterior to Oswald. With this compare Maen Beuno in Berriew.

<sup>3</sup> Price, in his *History of Oswestry*, states that "on days of solemnity processions of clergy, attended by the bailiffs and incorporated companies, used to proceed from one of the churches to the High Cross, and from thence to the crosses in the suburbs, at which prayers were offered up, especially on the Feast of Corpus Christi. Here all joined in bewailing their sins, and chanting petitions for an abundant harvest."

<sup>4</sup> The Lady Chapel in St. Asaph Cathedral occupied the south transept.

Porth de, viz., Sacellum S. Joannis Baptist.<sup>1</sup> The second without the same suburbe, within a bowshot of St. Oswalde, viz., S. Oswaldi Sacellum, ubi et Fons Oswaldi, where "ther is a chapelle of tymber and the fountein environed with a stone wall. The third N.E. towards Chester and called S. Edithæ Sacellum." A fourth has already been alluded to as that of St. Nicholas in the castle.<sup>2</sup>

When the civil wars broke out the royalist "governor fortified the castle very strongly, and lest the enemy should annoy it from the steeple, pulled it down to the body of the church, part of which he also demolished,"<sup>3</sup> and "on the 22nd June, 1644, the Earle of Denbigh and Coll. Mitton wonne first the chirche, then the towne, and those that fled to the castle yielded it up the next day after."<sup>4</sup> The damage done on these occasions must have been very considerable, not only through the demolition of the upper story of the tower, but also through the destruction of much of the interior of the building, as evidenced by the central pillars and arches,<sup>5</sup> which were only replaced by rudely constructed and ill proportioned masses of wall masonry.

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<sup>1</sup> The Hospital of St. John was founded about the year 1210 by Reyner, Bishop of St. Asaph, who procured for its endowment, from the Abbey of Shrewsbury, the site, two small crofts on each side of it, another croft and thirteen acres of land on the Welsh side of the town; from the clergy or prebendaries of Oswestry, a meadow and nineteen acres on the other side, by purchase; the entire vill of Wilcote; six shops and some land in Shrewsbury; also rents in Coleham, Mardol, and Wyle Cop; and certain payments or pensions from the clergy of Llansilin, thirty shillings; from Llangaenia, one merc; Llangum, one merc; Lanfaur, ten shillings; and by grant from William Fitz Alan, pasturage throughout Cynynion. The spiritual care of this Hospital, together with Wilcote as an endowment in consideration therefor, he granted to Haughmond Abbey, the canons being required to maintain a chapel or chantry; but the general administration he bestowed upon the Knights Hospitallers of Halston, under whom Haughmond Abbey continued to hold it, paying to the Prior an annual acknowledgment of twenty shillings.—Eyton's *Shropshire*, x, 346.

<sup>2</sup> From a record of inquisition, 21 Richard II (A.D. 1398), on the attainder of Richard Earl of Arundel, we learn "that the said Earl was seized, as of fee, of the advowson of the free Chapel of St. Nicholas within the Castle of Osweldestre, worth 46s. 8d."; and that "in the chapel were one vessel for the holy water, one missal, one gilt chalice, two linen towels, with a frontal, two surplices, two chessibles, with accompaniments."—Cathrall's *History of Oswestry*, p. 182.

<sup>3</sup> Pennant's *Tours in Wales*, i, p. 346.

<sup>4</sup> William Maurice, of Cefn y Braich's, manuscript notes.

<sup>5</sup> A curious old monument with kneeling effigies of Mr. Hugh Yale and Dorothy his wife, on the north wall, which states that they were buried in 1616 "within the chancel of this church, commonly called St. Mary's, before its demolition in the late wars", is the first actual notice of St. Mary's chancel, and must refer to that of the Lady Chapel on the south side.

The cost of the repairs which were thus necessitated amounted to £1,500, towards defraying which sum a brief was granted in 1675.<sup>1</sup> In 1749 we learn that there was a Welsh sermon and service in the morning every second Sunday;<sup>2</sup> otherwise the service was English on Sundays and week days, there being daily morning prayers; but the Thursday lecture only once a month, because the trustees would only give a portion of the legacy for that purpose, and sent down the rest in cloth for clothing the poor. In 1812 a new organ was erected and opened with a grand musical festival, and this one again greatly improved and enlarged in 1858, and removed from the gallery which then spanned the chancel to its present position in the north chancel aisle. In the year 1807 the church was enlarged "and beautified;" in 1831 a new entrance was made in the east end of the south chancel aisle, and in 1836 a new clock was substituted for the old one. In 1859 the vestry or surplice room, as it was called, was removed from the north chancel aisle to the tower, and in the east window, which was thus brought to view, some richly stained glass of the fourteenth century character was inserted in 1861, to the memory of "Edward F. Venables (formerly of Woodhill), killed in action at Azimghur during the Indian mutiny in 1858."<sup>3</sup> The three lights are in illustration of St. Luke, iv, 18, and represent our Lord as preaching to the poor, delivering the captive and giving sight to the blind. The glass is by Pilkington of St. Helen's, and the cost defrayed by the balance of a subscription in India, where also, as testified by the brass beneath, he had been honoured with a public memorial at Calcutta. In the same year the Earl of Powis, as lay rector, removed the Moses and Aaron with the Commandments and Creed, which had blocked up the east window, renewed the tracery and filled it with stained glass, of a subdued mediæval character, by Clayton and Bell, illustrating the Last Supper, and having in the tracery above medallions of the common seal of Oswestry, the Annunciation, the Salutation, the Flight into Egypt, and the Presentation in the Temple. This again he quickly followed up by the general restoration of the chancel, scraping and cleaning the pillars so as to disclose their proper Perpendicular character, and renewing the altar steps and furniture. About the same time a heraldic window was erected on the south side of the chancel by the Rev. John Parker to the memory of his father, T. N. Parker of Sweeney.<sup>3</sup> Two other windows soon followed on the north side, one representing the Raising of Lazarus, by Thomas Jones of Brook Street, in memory of his sister Elizabeth, ob. 1854; the other, illustrative of the Ascension, to the Rev. Turner Edwards, vicar of

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<sup>1</sup> *Caerwys Registers.*

<sup>2</sup> The Welsh services were discontinued in 1814. Trefonen Church was afterwards built with a special view to the wants of the Welsh-speaking parishioners; and in 1872 Welsh services have been renewed in the town, being held for the present in the Victoria Rooms.

<sup>3</sup> The glass is by Evans of Shrewsbury.



Kinnerley, erected in 1862; both by Clayton and Bell. Mural tablets commemorate members of the families of Maurice, Venables, Lloyd of Swanhill, Kynaston, Brown, Mostyn, etc.; Vicars Trevor and Turner Edwards, Rev. Jos. Venables, Lewis Jones, town clerk, erected by the corporation, 1812; the Rev. James Donne, D.D., head master of the school by his old pupils, 1844; Captain Owen Arthur Ormsby Gore, who fell in action with the Caffres in 1852, by his brother officers; and Charles Penson, a faithful teacher in the Sunday School, though nearly blind, by many who esteemed him very highly in love for his work's sake, 1836. As the whole of the interior is now undergoing restoration it may be desirable to describe briefly the appearance of the old church. The ground plan consisted of chancel and nave, with north and south aisles running the full length, and also a south chapel extending from the great south-western tower to the line of the old chancel. Along the whole of the west end, save the north aisle, ran a series of galleries, and, until the removal of the organ, there had been another at the junction of the chancel and nave, where the rood loft had once stood, and the singing gallery had succeeded. The roof throughout, except in the restored chancel, was concealed by a low round ceiling, and the arches,<sup>1</sup> which were very unshapely, had texts inscribed upon them. The desk stood against the first pillar of the nave on the north side, and the pulpit in a corresponding position on the south. The font, bearing the date 1662, and a spread eagle on a shield, probably to testify the satisfaction of the old royalist governor Lloyd at the Restoration, stood in the south chancel. The whole of the body of the church was filled with somewhat irregular and appropriated pews, and along the sides of the open aisles ran rows of seats which could be raised as required for the use of those who had no seats of their own. The south entrance with its massive oak door is of Early Pointed and probably coeval with the tower,<sup>2</sup> but the rest of the features of the church are of much more recent date. There are two parish chests, one of which is very handsome, with elaborate tracery of decorated work; and the other is said to have been used as a corn-bin during the Commonwealth. The registers commencing with 1558 have been regularly kept for the following intervals: 1558-1610,<sup>3</sup> 1610-40, 1653-1659; and from the Restoration to the present times. In

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<sup>1</sup> The three western arches of the nave are of better proportion and earlier character than the central ones, and appear to have been Early English without capitals; but to have been transformed into Perpendicular ones, corresponding with those of the chancel.

<sup>2</sup> A massive, round-headed doorway on the north side of the tower appears to be of Norman Transitional; and at the base of one of the western pillars is a Norman pediment, which, however, has been chipped off to adapt it to the octagonal pillar subsequently placed upon it.

<sup>3</sup> All the entries in this period are written in English, but the names given after the Welsh fashion, *e. g.*, John ap Rob., Jane *veh* (*verch*) Hugh, Goleubryd *veh*, etc.

these are preserved copies of many deeds and wills from the Prerogative Court of Canterbury in 1621, such as those of "Owen Morgan, haberdasher;" "Sir John Swynnerton, ditto;" "Anne Kynaston, All Saints, Bread Street, London;" "Mr. Hugh Yale;" John Williams of Westminster;" "Mary Spurstowe of Wootton," "Richard Muckleston," etc. Also some characteristic entries of birth instead of baptism during the Commonwealth, and a marriage solemnised at Aston during the same period before Mr. Rob. Clive. The communion plate consists of a chalice "ex dono Davidi Edwards," another dated 1575, the gift of Richard Stannus; a silver flagon given in 1707, and two patens, the gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Roderick.

In the churchyard the most prominent and interesting object is the fine tower, the massive base of which is of Transition, Norman, or Early English work. The facing of part of the second, and the whole of the upper story with its pinnacles and balusters are apparently of the date indicated over the south door, "Wardens, 1692." The old "Griddle" or lychgate on the south side bears the date 1631. The fine elm trees were planted by Vicar Owen 1707-13, and the iron gate from Church Street erected in 1738. A new addition to the churchyard was made in 1817 by the consecration of what had previously been the vicar's croft, and again in 1862 the increasing requirements of the town were met by the formation of a new cemetery,<sup>1</sup> at the distance of about a quarter of a mile from the town adjoining the road leading to Maesbury.

The work of restoration and improvement which is now proceeding comprises internally, for the nave and transept, new roofs and arcading with carved capitals to the pillars, new oak seats, floors and windows for the chancel and its aisles, new oak roofs in lieu of the ceilings, oak seats and screens, children's seats, and new south door; and for the church throughout Minton's tiles, heating apparatus, corona and standards for lighting, lowering of vaults, and repairs of roof and walls, with the addition externally of a new vestry and a porch on the south side. The plans followed are those of Mr. G. E. Street, and the subscriptions promised already amount to £9,003:5:6; the principal contributors to which have been the Earl of Powis, Hon. Mrs. Kenyon, J. R. Ormsby-Gore, M.P., A. C. Arkwright, T. L. Longueville, and James Edwards, each £500; T. Longueville, jun., and G. I. D. Lees, £225; James T. Jones, £220; Rev. W. Howell Evans, vicar, £150; Mrs. Aubrey and W. F. Rogers, £130; Major Lloyd, R. J. Croxon, and Owen G. Jones, £125; Mrs. Venables, J. H. Phillips, Stanley Leighton, Edw. Williams, C. W. Owen, Edmund Wright, J. Jones (Shelbrook), Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P., Hon. R. G. Cotton, and F. G. Buller Swete, £100; George Williams, and Rev. Edwin Arkwright and family, £75; Miss M'Creery, £63; and £50 each from

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<sup>1</sup> There are two chapels, both alike, of Decorated character, with a pretty little fleche, or open spirette, at their junction, supported on polished granite pillars. The one for the church was consecrated Nov. 13, 1862.

Countess of Powis, Mrs. Owen Jones, Mrs. Charles Jones (Old Bank), Mrs. Peter Heywood, Dr. Blaikie, Revs. Ambrose Short and J. Luxmoore, J. H. Lovett and W. M. Tuffnell.<sup>1</sup> The following special gifts have also been promised, viz., pulpit by Mrs. Howell (Tenby), font, children's collection, lectern by Mrs. Gwynne Evans; carved figures in porch by W. F. Rogers; service and office books by Mrs. W. F. Rogers. Chancel standard lights, A. C. Arkwright; altar cloth, Countess of Powis and other ladies.

The national schools were erected in 1841, the foundation stone having been laid on May 22nd,<sup>2</sup> and consisted of rooms for boys and girls, with class-rooms and teachers' residence. Towards the cost the Oswestry Church Sunday School contributed £700, the Privy Council £338, and the National Society £200; and they were further enlarged in 1871 at a cost of £300. A charity school existed here in the beginning of the last century, to which vicar Owen in 1713 left the interest of £20, and the Rev. Dan. Poole another £20 in 1716; £32 of this were laid out in 1716 on the poor house in Church Street, and 40s. a year allowed to the charity school, which appears to have been in the churchyard; in 1810 it was agreed that this school should be for the girls and the guildhall for the boys; these again were removed to the chapel of the House of Industry, and thence brought back to a room fitted up at the Bailey Head, and finally in 1841 the whole superseded by the new national schools.

An almshouse, containing twelve rooms for six men and six women was erected by Dame Ellen, widow of Sir Francis Eure, in . Mrs. Jane Owen in 1732 bequeathed to each of the twelve inmates 18s. a year, and in 1805 Mrs. M. Ormsby directed that it should be increased to £3 per annum each. The inmates are appointed and the houses kept in repair by Mr. Ormsby Gore of Brogyntyn.

The other charities embrace the following list of benefactions (see p. 656).

## VICARS.

1223.—PHILIP FITZ LEOFTH <sup>3</sup>	1537.—BRERETON, Peter
1258.—SIR YTHEL <sup>4</sup>	1552.—PRICE, John, LL.B. <sup>6</sup>
1269.—HANGMERE, Walter <sup>3</sup>	1583.—OWEN, William <sup>7</sup>
1534.—OWEN, David <sup>5</sup>	1587.—HORTON, William <sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The following sums were also collected: £151 by Messrs. Owen, Swete, and Morgan, £79 by Lloyd and Rogers, £101 4s. by Shaw and Morris, £49 2s. by Longueville and Phillips, £71 10s. by Lloyd and Lawford, £22 12s. by Ward and Jones, £24 by Mr. Pickstock, etc., and £56, the proceeds of a concert by the Herefordshire Philharmonic Society.

<sup>2</sup> Sir W. W. Wynn's birthday, in compliment to the memory of his father.

<sup>3</sup> Eyton's *Shropshire*, x, p. 337.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, xi, p. 13.

<sup>5</sup> R. Whittington, 1532; Preb. Meifod, 1534.

<sup>6</sup> R. Whittington, 1553; Preb. Meifod, 1558; Chancellor of Diocese, 1559.

<sup>7</sup> An eminent Welsh poet better known as "William Llyn". See Williams' *Eminent Welshmen*.

<sup>8</sup> R. Selattyn, 1588.



Date.	Donor.	Nature and Amount.	By Whom distributed.	Object.
1604	Morgan, Owen	£20 per ann. payable by the Haberdashers' Company, London	Vicar and Churchwardens	Relief of poor
1605	Yale, Hugh	Messages and lands = £13 per ann.; several sold, and proceeds, amounting to £661 : 11 : 5, invested in 3 per Cents. Field in Beatrice Street. Part sold to Cambrian Railway Co. for £275 15s., invested in 3 per Cents.; another part to ditto for £236 : 16 : 6, invested in their Mortgage Debenture Stock at 5 per cent. Rent of remainder, £5 10s.	Ditto	Ditto
1624	Wycherley, Richard	£1 10s. per ann. charged on lands in Crickheath	Churchwardens	Bread and apprenticing
1629	Morris, John, and wife	£2 12s. per ann. on Cae Rychan	Trustees	Bread, etc.
1643	Santley, Dorothy	5s. per ann. on houses in Cross Street	Vicar, Wardens, & Bailiffs	Bread
1693	Allon, Muckleston	A butt of land in Beatrice Street, for which 5s. per ann. was paid since 1693, was sold to the Great Western Railway for £232; now invested in market and fair tolls at 3½ per cent.		
1703	Ditto	Land in churchyard leased for 99 years from Oct. 1808, at £2 p.a.	Churchwardens & Overseers	Bread
1704	Williams, Elizabeth	£2 per ann. on Mixon Hall and Croft	Churchwardens	In money to poor
	Lloyd, Sir Nathaniel	Stock; interest, £97 : 19 : 8 <sup>2</sup>	Representatives of Donor and Bishop of St. Asaph	Twelve poor persons : £4 15s. each
1709	Muckleston, Richard	£2 per ann. on estates in Carmarthenshire	Bailiff, Vicar, & Wardens	Poor of town of Oswestry
1709	Matthews, Winifred	£2 10s. per ann. on Maes y Benglog in Trefonen	Vicar and Wardens	Apprenticing
1732	Peacock, —	£5 invested in Savings' Bank, 3½ per cent.	Wardens	Poor housekeepers
1737	Lloyd, Mary	£100 ditto	Vicar, Wardens, & Overseers	Apprenticing & clothing
1733	Lloyd, Rebecca	£1 per ann. on house in Cross Street	Vicar	Poor
1734	Williams, Sir Wm.	£200 invested in 1850 in £210 : 16 : 1 (3 per Cent. Cons.)	Vicar, Wardens, & Trustees	[dren']
1750	Godolphin, Margaret	House in Cross Street, exchanged in 1823 for one in Upper Brook Street	Churchwardens	Apprenticing poor chil-
1794	Lloyd, Margaret	£1 on house and land in Oswestry	Mayor and Wardens	Twenty poor labourers
1860	Jones, — of Chester	£206 : 6 : 6 invested in Aug. for £213 : 12 : 4	Vicar and Wardens	Sick and poor
1871	Peate, Andrew	£1,800, i. e., £2,000 less duty, invested in Consols.	Churchwardens & Overseers	
	<i>The following have been lost sight of or lost :</i>			
1669	Gough, William	£5 : 6 : 8 per ann. on lands in Treflach	Overseers	£5 to the poor; 6s. 8d. for sermon on St. Stephen's [Day]
1691	Shore, Francis	£1 per ann. on houses in Church Street	Descendant of Donor	Clothing
	Williams, Elizabeth	£1 10s. per ann. on croft at Croes Wylan	Tenant of Penylan	Poor of Morton, Maesbury, and Crickheath
	Jeffreys, —	One-third of estate at Osbaston, about £4 : 0 : 8 per ann.	Churchwardens	

<sup>1</sup> The primary object of this benefaction was to supply a residence for the Vicar; but if not occupied by him, to be applied to this purpose.

<sup>2</sup> To be divided among twelve poor persons in this, and eight in Whittington parishes.

- 1591.—BAGSHAW, J.<sup>1</sup> 1690.—WILSON, Samuel, A.M.  
 1599.—MORGAN, William, DD.<sup>2</sup> 1694.—GUILD, Archibald  
 1602.—PIGOT, Richard<sup>3</sup> 1697.—JONES, Thomas  
 1602.—TATTERSALL, Nathaniel<sup>4</sup> 1707.—OWEN, Thomas<sup>10</sup>  
 1612.—MUCKLESTON, Richard<sup>5</sup> 1713.—PARRY, Edward, A.M.<sup>11</sup>  
 1624.—KYFFIN, John, B.D.<sup>6</sup> 1736.—TREVOR, Thomas, A.M.<sup>12</sup>  
 1639.—WYNNE, Humphrey, A.M.<sup>7</sup> 1784.—EDWARDS, Turner, M.A.<sup>13</sup>  
 [1650.—NEVETT, Rowland, A.M.]<sup>8</sup> 1803.—GRIFFITHS, Daniel  
 1662.—WYNNE, Humphrey, A.M. 1808.—BOURKE, John W., A.M.<sup>14</sup>  
 1664.—EDWARDS, Richard 1825.—SALWEY, Thomas, B.D.<sup>15</sup>  
 1680.—JONES, Richard, A.M.<sup>9</sup>

1871.—EVANS, William Howell, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford ; Deac.  
 1858 ; Pr., 1859 ; Curate of Frating with Thorington, dioc. Rochester.  
 1858 ; C. Llandyssil, 1861 ; P. C. St. Mary's, Hawarden, 1870.

### THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

THIS is one of the oldest foundations in the kingdom, having been founded in the reign of Henry IV, between the years 1399 and 1413, by Mr. David Holbeche, a lawyer and steward of the town and lordship, who endowed it with a house on the south-west side of the parish church and with lands in Sweeny, 74 a. 0 r. 10 p.; Treflach, 20 a. 1 r. 5 p.;

<sup>1</sup> R. Whittington, 1585.

<sup>2</sup> Bishop of Llandaff, 1595 ; translated to St. Asaph, 1602. The learned translator of the Bible into Welsh.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llangernyw, 1606 ; V. Denbigh, 1614.

<sup>4</sup> Deprived. (B. Willis.)

<sup>5</sup> V. Llansilin, 1615.

<sup>6</sup> V. Llansilin, 1625 ; Preb. Meliden, 1628 ; R. Manafon, 1635.

<sup>7</sup> Deprived by the sequestrators, but lived to be restored. He was uncle to Bishop Humphreys of Hereford, who was educated here under his care, he being also a master of the school.

<sup>8</sup> Episcopally ordained. Vicar of Stanton, Shropshire. Adopted the views of the Congregationalists or Independents, and was appointed one of the Committee of Approvers under the Commonwealth. Ejected in 1662 ; died in 1675 ; and was buried at Morton Chapel.

<sup>9</sup> S. R. Darowen, 1684.

<sup>10</sup> S. R. Darowen, 1707.

<sup>11</sup> S. R. Darowen, 1720 ; Canon, 1722.

<sup>12</sup> Of Bodynfol ; V. Rhuabon, 1770.

<sup>13</sup> Of Talgarth ; V. Llansilin, 1802.

<sup>14</sup> V. St. Martin's, 1803.

<sup>15</sup> St. John's College, Cambridge ; Senior Opt., 1815 ; Fellow ; S. R. St. Florence, dioc. St. David, 1828. Author of sermon on *The Duties of the Christian Magistrate*, 1825 ; *Duties and Privileges of Baptism*, 1830 ; *Gospel Hymns*, 1847. Resigned this cure in 1871, after several years of non-residence, through ill health.

Maesbury, 12 a. 0 r. 29 p.; and Crickheath, 24 a. 1 r. 37 p., amounting in all to 131 acres.<sup>1</sup> Under a commission of charitable uses taken here on September 17th, 1634, it was found that the said lands had for the most part been let by the bailiffs of the town, and that there had been great abuses connected therewith, and the following September the commissioners issued a decree that for the future the nomination of the master should be left to the bishop of the diocese according to the law, and that the master for the time being should let the premises in possession, and not in reversion, with the consent of the bishop and the chancellor of the diocese and the bailiffs of the said town: and that the master should always have an usher whose stipend should be not less than £10 nor more than £15; and should always keep the house in repair. The lands in Treflach had been held so long upon the ancient rents that the holders at last insisted upon their right to hold them, until the late Dr. Donne brought an action of ejectment and carried his cause to the great advantage of the foundation. At the same time those lands being much intermingled with others were exchanged for some lands lying more compactly together, and subsequent exchanges which have also taken place have much enhanced the value of the property. In 1776 Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., gave the field "Caegroes," of about eight acres, subject to a charge of £12 per annum,<sup>2</sup> and a subsequent subscription of £779:4:8 was also raised, wherewith the present school-house was erected in part, the balance of the expenses being borne by the head master, Dr. Donne.

The present endowment consists of the house with six acres of land (Caegroes) adjoining, and the rental of the rest of the property, amounting in all to £260. Besides the head master there are at present three others; the number of boys being fifty-five.

The most palmy days of the school appear to have been those of the mastership of Dr. Donne, 1796-1833, in a list of whose pupils there appear a bishop, two deans, a G.C.B., a F.R.S., four generals, five members of Parliament, three county court judges, four canons, etc. Among its more distinguished alumni in times past may be named Thos. Bray, D.D., one of the founders of the church in Maryland and of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

Humphrey HUMPHREYS, D.D., Bishop of Bangor, 1689, translated to Hereford, 1701. A learned antiquary and writer of memoirs of eminent Welshmen in Wood's *Athenæ Oxonienses* (last edition) and in the *Cambrian Register*, 1795.

Edward CARDWELL, D.D., F.S.A., Camden Professor of Ancient History, 1826, and Principal of St. Alban's Hall, Oxford, 1831; author of

<sup>1</sup> The Sweeney lands, which are still called "The Holbeches", were probably the only ones actually left by the founder, the rest having been at that time unenclosed, and subsequently added.

<sup>2</sup> When the Cambrian Railway passed through the Sweeney lands, the compensation-money received was applied to the purchase of this leasehold.



*Aristotle's Ethics*, 2 vols., 1828 ; *New Testament, Greek and English*, 2 vols., 1837 ; *Josephus de Bello Judaico*, 2 vols., 1837 ; *Two Liturgies of Edward VI*, 3rd edit., 1852 ; *Documentary Annals of the Church of England*, 2 vols., 2nd edit., 1844 ; *History of the Conferences on the Prayer Book*, 3rd edit., 1849 ; *Synodalia*, 2 vols., 1842 ; *Reformatio Legum Ecclesiasticarum*, 1853 ; Bishop Gibson's *Synodus Anglicanus*, 1854.

HAMILTON VERSCHOYLE, D.D., Bishop of Kilmore.

DAVID FRANCIS ATCHERLEY, F.R.S., F.S.A., Serjeant-at-Law.

ARTHUR JAMES JOHNES, M.A., author of *Essay on the Causes of Dis-sent in Wales*, 1831.

In 1867 a sum of £1,200 was raised by subscription for the foundation of an exhibition tenable by any boy, who after being at the school for two years goes to a university or any similar educational institution. It is given away by examination, and the exhibitioners hitherto have been—

1869.—JONES, A. F., scholar of Brazenose College, Oxford.

1871.—JONES, J. H., unattached student of Oxford.

A school chapel was erected in 1863 and opened on St. Luke's day in that year.<sup>1</sup> It comprises a nave and pentagonal apse, and is furnished in the collegiate style. The sanctuary is raised above the nave, and has a reredos formed of a white marble cross, with encaustic tiles on each side ; two of its windows are filled with stained glass, the one illustrative of the episode of Martha and Mary in memory of the wife of the Rev. A. Short ; the other representing the Crucifixion, as testified by a brass inlaid in the floor, to John Edwards Donne, Lieut. in the Bombay Engineers, and the Rev. Rob. James Donne, M.A., Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge ; the two sons of John Donne, the donor. The lectern, of oak, inlaid with foreign fruit-woods and Derbyshire pebbles (Blue John), was presented by the boarders, and the Bible upon it by the day boys. The harmonium also is partly a gift of the boys. The roof is open and supported on corbels of carved stone. The windows are of plate tracery, with a string-course of inlaid tiles in a line with the capitals of the sand-stone shafts.

#### HEAD MASTERS.

1537.—REYNOLDS, —

— KYFFIN, John, B.D.<sup>4</sup>

1561.—MORYS, David<sup>2</sup>

1624.—LLOYD, John

1606.—BERKELEY, John, M.A.<sup>3</sup>

1636.—PAYNE, Edward, A.M.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Architect, E. Haycock. Style, Early English. Cost about £1,400, partly raised by subscription.

<sup>2</sup> V. Llansilin.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanddoget, 1606 ; V. Llansannan, 1611 ; R. Newtown, 1613 ; R. Llanfyllin, 1614 ; D.D. ; Preb. of Llanfair, 1621 ; S. R. Llandyssil, 1622.

<sup>4</sup> Vic. Chor. of St. Asaph Cathedral, 1620 ; V. Oswestry and Llansilin, 1624 ; Preb. Meliden, 1628 ; R. Manafon, 1635.

<sup>5</sup> Deprived by the Parliamentary Sequestrators, but at the Restoration appointed R. Cemmaes, 1661 ; V. Kinnerley, 1668.

1657.—EVANS, John <sup>1</sup>	1733.—SKYE, John, B.A. <sup>5</sup>
1661.—GRIFFITHS, William	1763.—MORRIS, Peter, B.A. <sup>6</sup>
1672.—CLOPTON, Thomas, A.M. <sup>2</sup>	1766.—REYNOLDS, Owen, B.A. <sup>7</sup>
1678.—EVANS, John, M.A. <sup>3</sup>	1772.—TISDALE, Chas. Anson
1686.—WISKIONS, Edmund	1781.—EDWARDS, Eusebius, <sup>8</sup> B.A.
1694.—GUILD, Andrew	1796.—DONNE, James, M.A. <sup>9</sup>
1697.—JONES, Thomas	1833.—DONNE, Stephen, M.A. <sup>10</sup>
1705.—POOLE, Daniel	1860.—SHORT, Walter F., M.A. <sup>11</sup>
1716.—LLOYD	1863.—SHORT, Ambrose, M.A. <sup>12</sup>
—— PATRICK, Robert <sup>4</sup>	

1873.—FORSTER, Michael Seymour, B.C.L. and M.A., New College, Oxford. Scholar of New College, 1862; 1st Class Mods. (classics), 1864; 2nd Class (Classics) and B.A., 1866; Assistant Master at Marlborough, 1867 Temporary Head Master of Giggleswick School, 1868-9; Vice-Principal of the International College, 1871-3.

### HOLY TRINITY CHURCH.

THIS was originally intended to be only a chapel of ease to the parish church; but in 1842 a large district, about four miles in length by nearly as much in breadth, was assigned to it, comprising the wards of Leg Street and Beatrice Street within the liberties of the town, and the five rural townships of Middleton, Hisland, Wotton, Aston, and Maesbury; and it was gazetted as a separate cure November 30 of

<sup>1</sup> An Independent put in during the Commonwealth. He had previously been Master of Dolgelley School, and at the Restoration was ejected. He subsequently settled at Wrexham, where he died in 1700.

<sup>2</sup> Nephew of Bishop Barrow. S. R. Cilcain, 1673; Canon, 1675; S. R. Llanrwst, 1677; Preb. Meifod, 1677; R. Castle Caereinion, 1678. Exchanged for R. Christleton, dioc. Chester, 1688.

<sup>3</sup> R. Newtown, 1666; Canon, 1681; V. Berriew, 1686.

<sup>4</sup> R. Cemmaes, 1717; Canon, 1728; R. Mallwyd, 1733.

<sup>5</sup> V. Berriew, 1730; V. Llansilin, 1745. <sup>6</sup> Previously Second Master.

<sup>7</sup> Buried in Llanrhaidr Church, 1772. <sup>8</sup> Pembroke College, Oxford.

<sup>9</sup> Second Master of King's School, Chester, 1794; Minor Canon in Chester Cathedral, 1796; V. Llanyblodwel, 1798; Rural Dean of Marchia, 1803; D.D.

<sup>10</sup> Scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge; V. Llansantffraid G. Ceiriog, 1837; R. Marchwiall, 1860.

<sup>11</sup> Fellow of New College, Oxford; Second Class Mod., 1853; Second Class, 1855; Junior Proctor, 1869-70; Tutor and Sub-Warden of New College. Nephew of Bishop Short.

<sup>12</sup> Second Math. Mod., 1853; Third Math. and B.A., 1856; Fellow of New College; R. Bodicote, 1873, brother of preceding.

that year; but it was not until 1866 that an order was issued authorising the solemnisation of marriages, baptisms, and funerals in it. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners endowed it at first with £113 per annum; and in 1839 Queen Anne's Bounty made a grant of £200 to meet a similar sum provided by subscription, yielding a further sum of £13 per annum; the rest of the income being derived from pew-rents and fees, raising the whole to about £150; until in 1872 the Earl of Powis transferred to it the rectorial tithes of Middleton township, amounting to £110 : 4 : 6, which was met by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners with a grant of £50 per annum. The present income is £310. A house was erected in 1866, at a cost of £1,460.<sup>1</sup> The population amounts to 3,927, and the patronage is vested in the vicar of Oswestry.

The church was begun in 1836, and consecrated July 8, 1837. It comprises a nave and apse or sanctuary, and has a gallery at the west end, and is calculated to accommodate 700, of which 400 are free sittings. The interior is highly ornamented with colour and wood-carving, which was done at the expense of the Rev. John Parker, vicar of Llanyblodwel. The sanctuary, raised five steps above the nave, from which it is divided by a low, open screen, has a vaulted roof, and a projecting, arcaded reredos enriched with much colouring. The altar-table is a large polished marble slab supported on a wooden frame. The nave is set off with much carved work upon the pulpit, the prayer-desk, and the front of the gallery, which is supported on iron pillars, and contains a new organ built by Halinshaw and Son of Birmingham, and erected in 1871, at a cost of £150.<sup>2</sup> About the year 1856 the roof having got into a dangerous condition, was replaced by a new ceiling, vaulted and panelled, with pendants and bosses richly coloured. The cost, about £600, was borne chiefly by Mr. T. L. Longueville, and the remainder by Mr. Parker. The font is hexagonal, and ornamented with foliated panels. The Communion plate was presented by the Earl of Powis, and the service-books by the late Viscount Dungannon.

At Maesbury, a hamlet about three miles distant, a National School-room was erected in 1840, and licensed for divine service, which is held in it every Sunday evening, and the Holy Communion administered every month.

A new school was also erected in the town in 1865 at a cost of £550, towards which the chief contributors were Earl Powis, Bishop Short, R. J. Ormsby Gore, Esq., T. L. Longueville, Esq., R. Lloyd, Esq.; and to it was added, in 1870, an infant school at a cost of £520.

#### VICARS.

1837.—BONNOR, Richard Bonnor Maurice, M.A., Christ Church, Oxford; third class Litt. Hum., second Math., 1825; V. Rhuabon, 1842; Dean of St. Asaph, 1857.

<sup>1</sup> Chief subscribers, Bishop Short, Earl of Powis, and T. L. Longueville, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> A small organ given by Mr. T. L. Longueville some years ago, had become unequal to the requirements of the church.



- 1842.—JONES, John, M.A., V. Llanarmon yn Ial, 1851. Translator into Welsh of Bishop Short's *What is Christianity?*  
 1851.—CASHEL, Frederick, B.A., Trinity College, Dublin; first class in Divinity, 1842; C. Forkhill, 1843; Taztaraghan, diocese of Armagh, 1846; Norton, diocese of Durham, 1849.

### ASTON CHAPEL.

THIS is a donative in the gift of Mr. Lloyd of Aston. According to Browne Willis "it was erected in 1594, at the cost of Richard Lloyd, Esq., and consecrated in the name of Christ's Chapel"; it is said, by Archbishop Parker at the same time with Park Chapel in Whittington parish. "It was rebuilt", as appears by an inscription over the north door, "by Thomas Lloyd, Esq., in the year 1742", who thus refers to both,—that he went "to a considerable expense to raise a new chapel to the honour of God and the credit of the family, instead of a poor old one".<sup>1</sup> From an old inscription on one of the walls of the older chapel it was stated to have been consecrated by Bishop Parry,<sup>2</sup> and to have had £15 a year settled upon it, with forty shillings a year for four Welsh sermons, to which further additions were made by others of the family. It also appears that there was formerly a house and garden for the chaplain, called "The Chapel House," which was burnt down in 1720 or 1721, and never rebuilt. The seats in the chapel were also let, and the rents formed part of the stipend of the curate.<sup>3</sup> One Titus Thomas, a Congregationalist or Independent, was ejected from it at the Restoration;<sup>4</sup> whence it follows either that this chapel was not exempt from the jurisdiction of the Ordinary, as was contended at a later period by the above named Mr. Thomas Lloyd, or else that the number of ejected clergy in this diocese was smaller even than the small number they have been supposed to be.<sup>5</sup>

The Chapel is a brick building with a tower at the west end, and is seated after the collegiate fashion. Divine service is performed in it every Sunday,<sup>6</sup> and is attended by several from the neighbourhood.

From the remains of graves in the rock, it has been supposed that there must have been a chapel, or at least a burial-ground, here before the year 1594.

It is now only used as a burial-place for the Lloyd family.

There is a rent-charge of £2 12s. payable by the owner of the Aston property, and bequeathed by — Thomas for bread to poor persons attending the Chapel.

<sup>1</sup> MS. G. 188.

<sup>2</sup> This may be a mistake for Parker. Parry's episcopate did not commence before 1604. The inscription itself is not now visible.

<sup>3</sup> MS. G. 186. <sup>4</sup> *History of Nonconformity in Wales.* <sup>5</sup> *Suprà*, p. 108.

<sup>6</sup> In 1750 the services were, in addition to those on Sunday, three times a week besides holy days.

## MORTON.

AN ecclesiastical district was assigned to this church in 1861, consisting of "the whole of the townships of Morton and Crickheath, with such part of the township of Sweeney as lies south of the Gwernau Lane, up Nant y Caws Lane, and by the Gronwen to its junction with the township of Treflach" (transferred from the parish of Oswestry), "and such part of the township of Llynelys, in Llanyblodwel, as lies south-east of the turnpike road from Oswestry to Llanymynech", comprising an area of 2,981 acres, and a population of 916.

The church is said to be situate locally in the parish of Llanyblodwel;<sup>1</sup> but of its origin nothing is now known. Eyton, indeed, says that "whenever founded it will have been an affiliation of the church of Oswestry"; but adds that he found no mention of such a chapel down to the time of Henry VIII.

The first reliable source of information seems to be the Rural Dean's Report for 1729, from which we learn that it "was not endowed, but that the neighbours raised a small contribution to the Rector of Knocking for service and a sermon once a fortnight." This contribution, however, amounting on an average to from £5 to £10 per annum, seems to have been certified by mistake as a salary or endowment, and so "it lost for a long time the benefit of a hazard for an augmentation from Queen Anne's Bounty." In 1742 Mrs. Charlotte Bridgeman, of Coleshill in Warwickshire, endowed it with a tenement and eight acres of land called "Cophall", in Staffordshire, yielding an annual rent of £32 per annum. To meet this benefaction, Queen Anne's Bounty, in 1743, made a grant of £200, with which were purchased a tenement and 14 a. 20 p. of land in Llanfechain, called "Freeth", which now yield a yearly rent of £30.

A preliminary inquiry was made on the occasion of this grant, from which we gather the following particulars: that it was "neither a rectory nor vicarage, nor an impropriate curacy, and who named to it the Commissioners could not say; but there being no other claimant, they apprehended the patronage to be in the Diocesan; that it was no donative; no distinct parish by itself, nor annexed to or joined with any other parish; nor was the incumbent of any other parish obliged either to do the duty here himself, or provide for its being done; that the service was performed by a neighbouring clergyman

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<sup>1</sup> A register or book of baptisms, however, solemnised here, now preserved with the Oswestry registers, states that it was "built exactly upon the borders of the two parishes of Llanyblodwel and Oswestry, and that great doubt exists as to which of the two parishes it is actually placed in." The baptisms were entered at first in each parish, according to the residence, but afterwards all here.

<sup>2</sup> *Shropshire*, x, p. 365.

every alternate Sunday evening, for which he received a contribution of £5 from the neighbouring farmers; but that he had not been nominated by any patron to the Bishop, nor licensed by him."

About the year 1820 the Cophall estate having been found to have minerals under it, was sold for about £20,000, which being invested in the Funds, has increased the income to £660 per annum. The parsonage house was built about the year 1840, and much enlarged and improved in 1861. There are also eleven acres of glebe. By the late transfer of patronage, the advowson passed from the Bishop of the diocese to the Lord Chancellor, in whom it now rests.

The old church, which was taken down in 1872, had been rebuilt in 1746,<sup>1</sup> and enlarged in 1829. In plan it was a low brick structure in the form of a T, comprising chancel and nave, with a transept and a vestry. Externally it had rusticated stone quoins and semicircular Hanoverian windows. Internally it was lined with oak framing up to and on each side of the Communion-Table, and a gallery stood at the west end.

The new church is in the Early Decorated style, and consists of a nave, chancel, and south aisle, supplying accommodation for 300, the principal entrance being through a north porch. The exterior walls are of the local stone from Sweeney Mountain and Shelvock, and all the arcades and interior openings of dressed Shelvock stone. The chancel, which is raised above the nave, and also divided from it by a shafted and well moulded arch, is floored with Maw's encaustic tiles, and furnished with sedilia and credence. The cost of the pulpit, which is of Caen stone, was defrayed by work done by ladies of the parish. The seats are free, and open. The roof, which is open, with open principals, is covered with Staffordshire pressed tiles, and the terminals of the gables are surmounted with stone crosses. The chancel window has three lights, that at the west end four, and the other twelve are of two and three lights each. The foundation-stone was laid August 15th, 1872, by Miss Leighton of Sweeney Hall, in the names of St. Philip and St. James; and it was consecrated on Thursday, October 16th, 1873. Architect, Mr. Pountney Smith of Shrewsbury; cost, about £2,200, besides special gifts.<sup>2</sup> Chief subscriptions: £500 each by Mr. Stanley Leighton of Sweeney Hall, and the Rev. James Hook, the vicar, £100 by the Earl of Powis, £50 each by Mr. T. L. Longueville and Rev. Ambrose Short, etc.<sup>3</sup>

The National School was erected in 1853, at a cost of £197, the site being the gift of the Earl of Bradford.

The township of Sweeney has a joint claim with Weston to a charge of £1 by — Pierce on Cae Mare in Llanyblodwel; and the township of Moreton to 4s., and Crickheath 3s., out of every ten of the third of an estate at Osbaston, left by one Jeffreys.

<sup>1</sup> The outlay was £255.

<sup>2</sup> Altar-cloth, chalice, and paten.

<sup>3</sup> A sum of £111 was obtained by a sale of work, and £73 10s. at the consecration offertories



## INCUMBENTS.

1746.—DALTON, William, M.A. <sup>1</sup>	1783.—VENABLES, Joseph, LL.B. <sup>4</sup>
1750.—LLOYD, David, LL.B.	1797.—VENABLES, Joseph <sup>5</sup>
1753.—PARRY, Randolph, M.A. <sup>2</sup>	1823.—LUXMOORE, J. H. M., M.A. <sup>6</sup>
1769.—WILLIAMS, John <sup>3</sup>	1860.—WYATT, W. R., M.A. <sup>7</sup>

1868.—HOOK, James, M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge, B.A. 1866; Deac. and Pr., 1868. Served through the Indian Mutiny in the Rifle Brigade, 1857. Mathematical Master in Radley College, 1867-69.

RHYDYCROESAU.<sup>8</sup>

THIS ecclesiastical district was consolidated by an Order in Council dated August 17th, 1844, and comprises the townships of Cynynion and Pentregaer in Oswestry; a detached portion of the township of Bryn, called Cefnynmaes, in Llanyblodwel; and portions of Upper Porkington in Selattyn, and of Lledrod in Llansilin; embracing an area of about 2,105 acres, with a population of 331.

In 1853 the endowment consisted of £32 : 14 : 3, being the lapsed rectorial tithes of Abertanat township, which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners assigned on the Bishop's recommendation, and to which they added a further £10 per annum; £4 : 4 : 8 from Queen Anne's Bounty;<sup>9</sup> and a house<sup>10</sup> with nine acres of glebe land. In 1860 the Ecclesiastical Commissioners increased their grant to £45 per annum, which being capitalised bought tithes in Cynynion, Pentregaer, and Llanforda, to the amount of £85 : 3 : 11 per annum. In 1867 it was constituted a rectory, and is in the patronage of the Bishop of the diocese.

The church, built mainly through the exertions of the Rev. G. N.

<sup>1</sup> Fellow of Catherine Hall, Cambridge.

<sup>2</sup> V. St. Martin's, 1745; Canon, 1746; V. Llanyblodwel, 1747; S. R. Llanddyssil, 1753; V. Guilsfield, 1755.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanarmon D. C., 1783.

<sup>4</sup> R. Erbistock, 1777.

<sup>5</sup> Nephew of the above.

<sup>6</sup> S. R. Whitford and Canon of St. Asaph, 1823; V. St. Martin's and R. Marchwiall, 1824; S. R. Llanarmon yn Ial, and Preb. Meifod, 1826.

<sup>7</sup> Brasenose College, Oxford; second class Litt. Hum., 1822; Vicar Choral and P. C. Disserth, 1836-60.

<sup>8</sup> "The ford of the crosses," but better known locally as "The Lawnt."

<sup>9</sup> A grant of £200 was made in 1843, to meet a similar sum raised by subscription, with a portion of which moneys the glebe land was bought.

<sup>10</sup> It was built in 1840, and stands within a stone's cast of the site of the house in which Charles Edwards wrote his *Hanes y Ffydd*, first published in 1671.

K. Lloyd of Selattyn, and after the model of the schoolroom he had erected there, is a small unecclesiastical-looking edifice with low walls and projecting eaves. A short tower stands at the west end; and behind the small sanctuary at the east end is the vestry. The site was presented by Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart.; the cost of erection was about £600; and it was consecrated August 2nd, 1838.

A pretty little National School was erected in 1849 at a cost of about £250, on a site which was also presented by Sir W. W. Wynn, M.P.

*Rector.*—1838. WILLIAMS, Robert, M.A., Christ Church, Oxford; third class in Lit. Hum. and B.A., 1832; Deac., 1833; Pr., 1834; C. Llangernyw, 1833-36; V. Llangadwaladr, 1837; Canon of St. Asaph, 1872. Author of *History of Aberconwy*, 1835; *Enwogion Cymru*, a Dictionary of Eminent Welshmen, 1852; *Lexicon Cornu-Britannicum*, a Cornish Dictionary with synonyms in the cognate Celtic dialects of Welsh, Armoric, Irish, Gaelic, and Manx, 1862-65.

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#### TREFONEN.

THIS district, constituted out of Oswestry parish by an Order in Council dated August 27, 1842, comprises the townships of Trefonen, Treflach, and Trefarelawdd, having an area of about 3,000 acres, and a population of 1,484. The endowment, which was originally £100 per annum, has been at different times augmented to its present value, viz. £280, with house, nine acres of glebe, and fees. The land was bought by Queen Anne's Bounty, in the year 1858, for £680. The sources of income are: parliamentary grant<sup>1</sup> in the hands of the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, railway debentures presented by the Earl of Powis,<sup>2</sup> grants from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to meet the same, tithe rent-charge out of the townships of Trefarelawdd and Llanforda, rents and royalty from a colliery lately opened on a portion of the glebe land.

The rectory house was built in 1855, at a cost of £1,100, chiefly borne by the patron, the Earl of Powis.

The church, which is singular among those of modern date in having no dedication, was consecrated in January 1821, enlarged in 1828, and much improved in 1864; on which occasion the old seats (merely common benches with straight backs), which had been divided by an aisle down the middle, were replaced with open seats forming centre and side-aisles; and the roof, which is of one span, cleared of its whitewash; and the woodwork stained. A gallery occupies the west

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<sup>1</sup> A grant of £2,000 was made in 1821, of which sum £650 were invested in 1861 in the purchase of tithes in Llanforda and Trefarelawdd.

<sup>2</sup> These debentures on the Shrewsbury and Hereford line produce £60 per annum.

wall, and a porch and vestry stand at the western entrance. The east window has three lights. The others are broad lancets.

A school was built in 1826, by subscription, the National Society contributing £100, on a portion of the glebe given for that purpose by the then incumbent; and it was further repaired and enlarged in 1867, at a cost of £220.

Trefonen was originally intended to be solely a Welsh church, to meet the requirements of the Welsh-speaking inhabitants of the district; but since then the English language has so spread, that at present the services are mostly in that language. The site of the church, with two acres of ground, was given by the late Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart.

The parish was constituted a rectory in 1866.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES, NOW RECTORS.

1821.—HUGHES, John.

1822.—JONES, Walter, M.A.; V. Llansilin, 1827.

1827.—JONES, Edward, M.A.; R. Gwaunysgor, 1850; R. Manafon, 1872.

1850.—LLOYD, David, St. David's, Lampeter; Deac., 1847; Pr., 1848.

Formerly Curate of Tredegar.

#### SELATTYN.

THIS parish consists of the upper and lower divisions of the township of Porkington or Brogyntyn (the "Burtone" of *Domesday*), and embraces an area of 5,438 acres, of the rateable value of £7,203, with a population of 1,186. From the above, however, the division of Lower Porkington has been assigned to the ecclesiastical district of Hengoed, and a portion of the upper division to that of Rhydygroesau, leaving to the mother church a population of 686.

The legend of the foundation of this church, as given by Pennant,<sup>1</sup> is "that a noble Briton being engaged in the chase, found in a thicket on this spot a white hind, which determined him (after the example of Ethelred, King of the Mercians, in the instance of St. John's Church, Chester) to dedicate it to sacred uses."<sup>2</sup> He accordingly translated to this place the ancient church which tradition says stood before on a spot still called "Bryn yr Hen Eglwys", or "the hill of the old church."

In the *Taxatio* of 1291 it is given as "Eccl'ia de Hilatwon", with a various reading, "Sulatwn"; and valued at £6 : 13 : 4; dec., 13s. 4d. In the year 1420 the advowson of this church as well as of Whittington was ascertained by inquest to be an appurtenance of Whittington Castle, and so part of the estate of the last Fulk Fitz Warin, then

<sup>1</sup> *Tours in Wales*, i, p. 360.

<sup>2</sup> A similar legend attaches to Llangar Church, near Corwen.



recently deceased.<sup>1</sup> The *Valor* of 1534-35 gives it as "in grosso, £13:6:8; clare, £12:9:6; dec., £1:4:11¼." The commuted value is £813 (out of which, however, £40 per annum has been assigned to Hengoed), together with eighty-one acres of glebe, and a house built about 1812, and rebuilt in 1853.<sup>2</sup> Patron, Richard Lloyd, Esq., of Aston.

The church, St. Michael (Sept. 8), before the addition of the north transept in 1821, and the south in 1828, consisted of a long nave and chancel, with a western tower erected in 1703. It is now cruciform. "In 1748 the chancel was flagged and wainscoted by Rector Hanmer, with the help of some of the chief parishioners, in consideration of his allowing them seats there", and the same consideration of seats ruled the subscriptions for the transepts. A gallery, erected in 1821, occupies the west end, and beneath it is the principal entrance through the tower. A small band of tracery still survives on one of its supporting beams, but the ancient screen itself has long since disappeared. The roof is hidden by a ceiling, and pews occupy the nave and transepts. In the chancel stands an organ by Bevington, erected in 1867;<sup>3</sup> and two tablets commemorate respectively Charles Morris, who in 1721 bequeathed £500 to purchase lands for the poor, and 20s. for a sermon on the day of distribution, Candlemas Day; and G. N. K. Lloyd, M.A., for thirty-four years rector of the parish. Two others, in the north transept, are memorial to two promising young parishioners, Owen Arthur Ormsby-Gore, killed in action in Kaffirland in 1852; and Thomas John Nicholas, M.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, 1866, ætat. twenty-nine. A cross of white Sicilian marble, in the churchyard, marks the grave of Rowland J. Venables; and others, those of rectors Lloyd and Husband.

The School, erected by Rector G. N. K. Lloyd in 1811, was improved and enlarged in 1863 at a cost of £445;<sup>4</sup> and in 1872 a new master's house was built by subscription,<sup>5</sup> in memory of Mr. R. J. Venables of Oakhurst. It receives for its endowment, under a scheme of the Charity Commissioners, two-thirds of the charities of Bishop Hanmer<sup>6</sup> and Mr. Charles Morris, the gross amount of which is £74,<sup>7</sup> the remaining third being distributed in clothing. Trustees, the rector and churchwardens.

Two other charities, bequeathed by members of the Brogyntyn family, and under their management, are:

1. A rent-charge of £6 per annum, by Colonel OWEN.

<sup>1</sup> Eyton's *Shropshire*, xi, p. 45.

<sup>2</sup> Outlay, £770.

<sup>3</sup> A barrel-organ by Bryceson, set up in the gallery in 1847, had previously been superseded by a harmonium.

<sup>4</sup> Inclusive of debts upon the school of £77, and law expenses, £45 10s.

<sup>5</sup> Total cost, £480:18:4, towards which the late Mrs. Ormsby Gore contributed £100, and an anonymous donor, £197:17:4.

<sup>6</sup> This was originally £6 10s. per annum.

<sup>7</sup> The rental of 53 a. 3 r. of land purchased with the two benefactions.

2. Another benefaction by — ORMSBY.<sup>1</sup>

A fourth charity is the fourth part of the rental of a quillet of land at Preesgwyn, amounting to 4s. a year.

At Pantglas a school and teacher's house were erected, principally by Mrs. J. R. Ormsby-Gore, in 1861, and enlarged in 1865, and divine service performed in it for some time from 1866 to 1870.

## RECTORS.

1518.—Robert ap Howel, ob.	1682.—JONES, John, B.D. <sup>8</sup>
—— John ap Robert	1713.—SACHEVERELL, H., D.D. <sup>9</sup>
1537.—STANNEY, Robert <sup>2</sup>	—— DAKER, William
1556.—THOMAS, J.	1719.—HANMER, Thomas, M.A. <sup>10</sup>
1557.—POWELL, Richard <sup>3</sup>	1750.—ROBERTS, William, M.A. <sup>11</sup>
1578.—PRICE, Richard, LL.B. <sup>4</sup>	1785.—LLOYD, John Robt., M.A. <sup>12</sup>
1587.—TOPPERLEY, Thomas	1802.—WHITEHALL-DAVIES, W., M.A. <sup>13</sup>
1588.—HORTON, William <sup>5</sup>	1810.—LLOYD, Geo. N. K., M.A. <sup>14</sup>
1592.—THACKERLY, Rowland	1846.—LLOYD, C. A. A., M.A. <sup>15</sup>
1600.—JONES, Henry	1852.—LLOYD, H. A., M.A. <sup>16</sup>
1610.—WILDING, James, M.A. <sup>6</sup>	1853.—HUSBAND, John, M.A. <sup>17</sup>
1659.—WILDING, Thomas, M.A. <sup>7</sup>	

1869.—ROGERS, James Strangward, St. Aidan's, Birkenhead; Deac., 1857; Pr., 1858; C. Sittingbourne and Iwade, 1857; Westerham, 1859; South Hanningfield, 1863; St. Jude's, London, 1864; St. Clement's, London, 1866; P. C. Grange, dioc. Carlisle, 1867.

<sup>1</sup> In the Digest of the Reports of the Charity Commissioners, issued in 1843, the sum of these two is given as £20 per annum, with a "question whether it was a permanent charity." The question, however, can only relate to the second of them.

<sup>2</sup> V. Meifod.

<sup>3</sup> The parish registers date from 1557.

<sup>4</sup> Comportionary R. of Llandinam in Bangor diocese, 1561; S. R. Pennant, 1565; R. Llandrinio, 1567.

<sup>5</sup> On deprivation of Topperley. V. Oswestry, 1587.

<sup>6</sup> Christ College, Cambridge. Rector for forty-eight years and three months. One of the few who continued undisturbed in their livings through the Commonwealth.

<sup>7</sup> "Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge. Admitted and possession given unto him by Thomas Lloyd, lord of the manor of Whittington, 30 May, 1659; Mr. Richard Wilson, minister of the Gospel, the churchwardens, and sexton, being witnesses." Canon, 1672.

<sup>8</sup> V. St. Martin's, 1665; V. Llansilin, 1667; Canon, 1681.

<sup>9</sup> R. St. Andrew's, Holborn. Vide *suprà*, p. 132.

<sup>10</sup> Of Pentrepant.

<sup>11</sup> R. Whittington, 1749.

<sup>12</sup> Of Aston. R. Whittington, 1784.

<sup>13</sup> R. Whittington, 1801.

<sup>14</sup> Built the parsonage house and school.

<sup>15</sup> R. Whittington, 1809.

<sup>16</sup> Of Leaton Knolls.

<sup>17</sup> Fellow of Magdalen College, Cambridge. C. St. Matthew's, Buckley, 1818; Neston, 1822.

## ST. BARNABAS, HENGOED.

THIS consolidated district, gazetted January 31st, 1854, comprises the lower division of Porkington, in the parish of Selattyn, with a population of 496 ; and the township of Daywell, in Whittington, with an area of 773 a. 35 p., and a population of 351: total, 847.

In the year 1835 the Rev. G. N. K. Lloyd of Selattyn built here a small church, which was first opened for divine service on Christmas Day in that year ; but after the consecration of the new church in 1853 it was converted into a schoolroom, and enlarged in 1857. It has a gallery at the west, and a raised platform at the east end.

The new church, dedicated in the name of St. Barnabas, on whose festival (June 11) it was opened for divine service, is of somewhat peculiar character, built from the designs, and mainly at the cost, of the incumbent, the Rev. A. R. Lloyd, by whom the foundation-stone was laid August 16th, 1849. The plan consists of a nave and small chancel, with a north transept added in 1855, a south porch, a small gable-belfry, and south-east vestry, etc. The construction is of rubble-work, with light buttresses and lancet-windows ; the roof of rafters supported by smaller stays and scantlings, without any beams, but bound together with iron rods. The triple lancet of the chancel is filled with stained glass presented by the Hon. Mrs. Kenyon of Pradoc. The transept-window, representing "The Setting Sun", was added as a memorial to the Rev. C. A. A. Lloyd, rector of Whittington.<sup>1</sup> The Communion plate, font, two barrel-organs in the transept, and the two bells, were given by the incumbent. The pulpit and desk, which stand on each side of the entrance to the chancel, are both of considerable height, and approached from within the rails. Owing to the want of a sufficient endowment it was not consecrated till August 15th, 1853.

The sum assigned to this church, upon its being opened in 1850, was £40 from Selattyn, and £15 from Whittington, augmented in 1865 to £25 12s. per annum ; and in order to secure the consecration, the incumbent transferred to Queen Anne's Bounty a house and four acres of land (including the garden and site of the church), which was met by them with a grant of £6 per annum, representing the interest of £200 at 3 per cent.<sup>2</sup> The total income is £71 per annum, and the aforesaid house and land. Patron, the present incumbent during his lifetime, afterwards the rector of Selattyn.

<sup>1</sup> Glass by Ashwin of London. Donor, Capt. Husband of Manchester.

<sup>2</sup> It seems rather a hardship, that under the above circumstances, when land near the church might have been purchased for £250, and a friend offered the additional £50 to secure it, whereby the £6 might even then have been nearly trebled, the Board should have refused to transfer the £200 for that purpose.



*Incumbent.*—1853. LLOYD, Albany Rossendale, M.A., Trin. Coll., Cambridge ; Deac., 1840 ; Pr., 1841 ; formerly curate of Padiham and of St. John's, Liverpool. Author of *History of England in Verse*, 1846 ; *The Birth of the Storms, an Allegory*, 1855 ; *Missionary Hymn Book*, 1856 ; *Astronomical Recreation Cards with Rules*, 1862 ; *A First Journey by Rail* ; and several tracts and pamphlets.

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### WHITTINGTON.

"THE White Town", "Alba Villa",<sup>1</sup> of the twelfth century and more ancient "Tref-wen" of Llywarch Hen's Ode to Cynddylan,<sup>2</sup> belonged in the earlier part of the tenth century to the famous Tudor Trefor, Earl of Hereford ; and after the conquest to Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, from whom it descended through Pain Peveril to Melch, daughter of Sir William Peveril, whose marriage with a noble Lorrainer, Guarine de Metz, about the year 1083 transferred it to the family of the Fitzwarines, in whose possession it remained for nearly four hundred years, with the exception of a brief interval in the reign of Henry I, when it was taken possession of by Gruffyd ap Cynan and retained by Owen Gwynedd. In Henry VIII's time a descendant of John Earl of Bath exchanged this lordship for other lands ; and Edward VI made a grant of it to Henry Grey, Duke of Suffolk, on whose attainder Queen Mary bestowed it on the last Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel ; by whom it was mortgaged to William Albany and other citizens of London. By the foreclosing of this mortgage it came into possession of the said Albany, whose great granddaughter and heiress married Thomas Lloyd of Aston, in whose family it still continues. The Lord of the Manor was at the same time the patron of the living.

Eyton states that "there is nothing in the Domesday notice to indicate the pre-existence of a church. Nevertheless, if Whittington Church had been founded later than Domesday we should probably have heard of it as an affiliation of Oswestry in the first instance."<sup>3</sup> On the former of these two points we may remark that the silence of Domesday as to any church is no proof of its non-existence, as the object of that great survey was the civil and not the ecclesiastical

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<sup>1</sup> Thus distinguished from "Album Monasterium", or Oswestry.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Thomas Wright, M.A., F.S.A., the learned editor of the *History of Fulk Fitz Warine*, maintains, on the other hand, that this ode belongs to the thirteenth or fourteenth, and not to the sixth or seventh century ; and that the Welsh name, "Y dref Wen", is a translation of Whittington, which was supposed to be "White Town", but meant really the town of the Whittingas. (*Montgomeryshire Collections*, 1870, p. 163.)

<sup>3</sup> *Antiquities of Shropshire*, xi, p. 42.

condition of the country ; and as to the second, Whittington was probably up to that time a more important place than Oswestry ; and therefore would hardly be an affiliation of it, and if it had been, it would have followed its appropriation to Shrewsbury Abbey. The Berewicks, however, recorded in that survey as belonging to it are each of them represented in the present townships of the parish, viz., Whittington, Berghill,<sup>1</sup> Frankton, Old Marton, Hindford,<sup>2</sup> Henlle,<sup>3</sup> Ebnal,<sup>4</sup> Fernhill, and Daywell. The area is 8,306 a. 0 r. 9 p., to which must now be added the ancient peculiar or parish of Halston, 647 a. 2 r. 2 p., making a total of 8,953 a. 2 r. 11 p., with a population of 2,175. From this, however, 773 a. 0 r. 35 p., population 351, have been assigned to the ecclesiastical district of Hengoed, and 1,134 a. 0 r. 37 p., population 284, to that of Frankton, leaving to the mother church an area of 7,046 a. 0 r. 19 p., with a population of 1,540.

The *Taxatio* of 1291 gives "*Ecclesia de Chwytynton*" as worth £12, dec. £1 4s.; and the *Valor* of 1535 returns it at £25 4s., dec. £2:10:5. A charge upon it at this time was a sum of six shillings, payable to the Lord Fitzwarine. At a later period, as appears from the terriers of 1630 and 1684, the tithes of Berghill and a moiety of those of Whittington were paid to the master of a school at Bangor, in Carnarvonshire. They amounted to £26:13:4, and appear to have been originally charged upon the lands of the Hospital of St. John the Baptist in Oswestry, situate in Frankton, Alderton, Kingston Upper Ridge, Lower Ridge, New Marton, Newnes and Hardwicke, and paid by Mr. Lloyd of Aston.<sup>5</sup> The Moduses in 1749 embraced 14s. for tithe hay in Gravenhall, £1:3:4 ditto in Trenewydd; no tithe hay within the liberties of the park lands and small sums for places not named in Ebnal and Daywell, the clerk's salary at the same period being reckoned at "15 thraves of corn." The Commutation in 1838 returned the impropriate tithes at £440, namely, £290 in Whittington township, held by Capt. Boydell Croxon, and £150 in Berghill township, held by Major Lloyd of Aston. The rector's tithes were commuted at £1,056. Out of these latter, however, a tithe rent charge of £60:4:7 was transferred in 1865 to the endowment of Frankton, and £25 12s. in lieu of the previous £15 for that of Hengoed. The glebe land, including plantation, amounts to 58a. 1r. 17p.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *I. e.*, *Byr gyll*, "the hazels"; or perhaps the place referred to under Halston as "*Berkelai*", *i. e.*, *Abergele*.

<sup>2</sup> Written in 1592 "*Hynford*", probably a corruption of "*Henffordd*", *i. e.*, "*an old highway*" from Oswestry to Ellesmere.

<sup>3</sup> "*The old place*", to distinguish it from a later one of greater importance, *i. e.* "*Y Benal*".<sup>4</sup>

<sup>5</sup> It is supposed that some arrangement was made with the see of Bangor by the owners of the said possessions, and that there was a piece of land given up or money paid as an equivalent. (MSS. of Rector Roberts.)

<sup>6</sup> In an inventory of furniture belonging to the glebe, taken under a com-

The house, which was originally of wattle work, was improved and enlarged in 1758, again in 1801, and again partly rebuilt and added to in 1852. Patron, Major Lloyd of Aston.

The church, dedicated in the name of St. John the Baptist with the wake on the Sunday following his festival, was rebuilt<sup>1</sup> (with the exception of the chancel and tower) in 1805-6, and enlarged by the addition of a chancel aisle in 1861. It comprises a chancel with north aisle and south vestry and a large nave, 60 feet by 50 feet, spanned by a wide flat ceiling, and having a gallery along the west end, the principal entrance being beneath the western tower. From parochial records of great interest and value compiled in the first instance in a MS. volume, bearing date 1774, by rector<sup>2</sup> Roberts, added to by his successors and very fully completed in a second volume by the present rector, we select the following more interesting memoranda:—In 1736 the wooden tower was taken down, and a brief obtained for the rebuilding; the sum so collected amounted to £614:12:9, but the costs and expenses<sup>2</sup> attendant upon them amounting to 330:16:6 left only £273:16:3 available for the tower, which was built of brick in 1746, and substituted as an entrance for the old south porch, which was done away with. In 1753 the old rood loft between the church and chancel was transformed into a pewed gallery, which was approached by an external staircase on the south side, and in 1755 the pulpit and desk were removed from the north to the south side, a gallery erected along the north wall, and the common or open benches in the body of the church converted into pews, and the whole annexed to freeholders. In 1774 a new wainscot altar piece of oak with the commandments was set up, and in 1785 a new chancel of the meanest description, being a small square brick room, ceiled, with a square sash window in the east wall, was built on at the east end. In 1804 the old body of the church was taken down, with the exception of the tower, and the present edifice built in its stead from designs of Mr. Harrison of Chester at a cost of £1,500. The material is brick, the windows large and round, and the walls painted externally with scripture texts. Internally it is spanned by a flat wooden ceiling. It was probably at this time that the decorated window now in the castle was removed, and a portion of the old screen taken to Halston Chapel. In 1810 a barrel organ by England was set up, and a list printed by the rector of those who did and those who did not subscribe to it. This organ was super-

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mission in 1630, we find “3 pair of armour furnished with two pikes and two head-pieces”, which Pennant supposes to have been intended for the use of the rector for the defence of the castle against the Welsh in any sudden emergency.

<sup>1</sup> Tradition states it to have been originally the chapel to the castle, and that the parish church was lower down in the meadows, where was a yew-tree, and where many bones have been found in digging.

<sup>2</sup> Compare the Llanddulas brief, p. 136 *suprà*.



seded in 1867 by a new one by Bevington, which cost about £100. In 1852 a curious old almsdish, stamped with the design of the spies bearing the grapes of Eshcol, was presented by the rector; and the next year a new font of Cefn stone was substituted for the old one, a shallow basin on a triangular wooden frame, which was then transferred to Frankton, and thence on the consecration of the new church again removed to the chapel of the House of Industry in Oswestry. In 1854 a new pulpit and a new prayer desk were set up, the latter copied from one at Ellesmere, designed by Mr. G. G. Scott, and put up by his godfather "In mem. W. M. H. Sept. 3, 1854."<sup>1</sup> In 1857 the new cemetery was consecrated on the 14th August. In 1860 open seats were substituted, at the rector's expense, for the first three rows of square pews in the nave; and the following year he also rebuilt the chancel at a cost of £165;<sup>2</sup> a stained glass window being at the same time inserted by the lay impropiator, Captain Brydell Croxon, in memory of his wife and children; the glass by Heaton and Butler, and the subjects, Our Lord blessing little children, Mary sitting at Jesus' feet, and in the centre the Ascension. The north chancel aisle was at the same time added for the poor by subscription, amounting to £210 15s. Again, in 1871, open seats were substituted for the old pews throughout the church, at an outlay of £207, of which sum £90 was raised by subscription and the remainder given by the rector. Two stained glass windows in memory of Joseph Venables Lovett, Esq., of Belmont, and Thomas Lovett, Esq., of Fernhill, have been added, and also a costly marble monument, executed in Florence, put up in memory of Myra Catherine Shaw, daughter of the late R. H. Kinchant, Esq., of Park Hall.

The registers, which are in excellent preservation, and date from 1591, abound in curious and valuable information, as well as in most amusing entries, especially poetical epitaphs and other verses by rector W. Roberts.

The following additional memoranda will help to throw light on the past condition of the parish:—

From the case of *Albany v. the Bishop of St. Asaph*, A.D. 1591, it appears that the bishop had claimed the nomination of a rector by lapse, but it being proved that the time had not actually passed the bishop shifted his plea to the ground that the patron's nominee did not know Welsh, there being parishioners who spoke nothing but Welsh. This second plea was considered valid in itself, but notice of it not having been given in time the verdict was given against the bishop.<sup>3</sup> In 1718 a petition was sent up from the parish to the bishop, stating that from time immemorial the rectors had kept a Welsh curate for performing divine service, administering the holy communion and

<sup>1</sup> The rector's eldest son, who died at Barmouth.

<sup>2</sup> The terrier of 1684 states that the lych-gates were to be repaired by the rector, and no other part. The chancel to be repaired by the incumbent.

<sup>3</sup> "Leonard and Cook," 27 Eliz. Trin. Term.

visiting the sick in the British tongue, that the second lesson was always in Welsh and a Welsh sermon once in three weeks at the least ; but that the then rector, Mr. Cook, had discontinued it, and praying the bishop to remedy the wrong. The prayer was complied with, as is evident from the R. D. reports for 1732 and 1749. Two curious old customs continued to be observed here until a comparatively modern period, that of "Bannering," or walking the boundaries on Holy Thursday, and that of "Souling," or the singing by children of certain rhymes, begging for gifts in the name of various saints, on All Souls' Day. An amusing entry in the marriage register for 1837, when the new duplicate form came first into operation, shows the perplexity felt by the officiating minister as to filling up the column "Condition," intended to indicate whether previously married or single. This is solved by the matter-of-fact statement "that the man was fat, the woman rather lean."

Robert Montgomery, the poet, was ordained to this curacy in 1835, but held it only for nine or ten months. He used to compare himself here to "an oak in a flower-pot."

The National Schools for boys and girls with master's house and class room were built in 1854 at a cost of £956 : 4 : 10.<sup>1</sup> The previous boys' school was one of the earliest in the kingdom, established on the Lancasterian system and held in the old tithe barn. This proving very successful a girls' school was added in 1809. This was held in an old cottage. A Sunday-school was established in the church in 1785, when the late chancel was added, but it was subsequently held in the west gallery.

#### WHITTINGTON CHARITIES.

1. John TRUSTON, 1659. Land, rent to be distributed in bread every Sunday. Present rent £15.

2. Elizabeth PROBERT, 1675. Land, to the use of the poor of the parish. Present rent £13 10s.

3. Robert JONES, 1679. Land, for the maintenance of an honest and ingenious schoolmaster. Present rent £19 10s.

4. GRIFFITH AP HUGH, 1706. Land, for "the teaching of the poor children of the parish in the Bible and Church Catechism." Present rent £18.

5. Robert CONWAY, 1727. £1 per annum to the poor.

6. JOHN AP RICE, date unknown. 50s. per annum to the poor. Walter Rogers, in confirming this bequest in 1685 named 40s. instead of 50s. Counsel's opinion was taken in 1812, and the parish officers were advised to be content with the smaller sum. John ap Rice appears to have been rector of the parish in 1535.

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<sup>1</sup> Towards this the Privy Council granted £214 10s., and £100 were subscribed by E. Wright, £50 each by Mrs. Wright and E. Wright, jun., £75 by Mr. Thomas Lovett of Fern Hill, £60 by the National Society, and the bricks were carted by the farmers in the parish.

7. Elizabeth LLOYD, 1696. Annuity of £14 per annum to be distributed to "twelve poor families, especially those that have children in the township of Whittington."

8. Sir Nathaniel LLOYD, 1704. Certain dividends to some of the meaner inhabitants of Oswestry and Whittington. These dividends, as now settled by the Court of Chancery, provide annuities of £4 15s. each to twelve persons in Oswestry, and eight in Whittington parish. The nominations in each parish are alternately with the owner of Aston and the bishop of the diocese, the latter simply endorsing the recommendation of the parochial clergy.

9. Richard EVANS, date unknown. £5 to the poor. After a most curious and complicated history, quite a little financial romance, which is too long to record in the present work, this sum of £5 reappears on the stage in the shape of a small field known as the Girls' School Field, a little strip of 35 perches in the Rectory Grove. Present rent, field £3 3s.; strip in rectory ground, £1 1s. Total £4 4s.

10. Frances HOWELL, 1842. £200, the proceeds to be divided between twelve poor widows, six in Whittington parish, and six in Dudleston. Present dividend £6 : 2 : 2.

## RECTORS.

1218.—David VEWAN <sup>1</sup>	1666.—POWELL, Robert, D.D. <sup>7</sup>
1291.—John <sup>2</sup> ———	1681.—ADAMS, Thomas, A.M. <sup>8</sup>
1349.—Roger de ACTON <sup>3</sup>	1718.—COOK, Thomas, A.M.
1532.—OWEN, David	1722.—BOYCOTT, Richard
——— KYFFIN, Rice	1749.—ROBERTS, William, A.M. <sup>9</sup>
1553.—RICE, John ap, LL.B. <sup>4</sup>	1784.—LLOYD, John Robt., A.M. <sup>10</sup>
1583.—KYFFIN, David	1801.—WHITEHALL-DAVIES, W., A.M. <sup>11</sup>
1585.—BAGSHAW, J. <sup>5</sup>	1809.—LLOYD, Ch. A. Albany, M.A. <sup>12</sup>
1605.—PRICE, Fulk, A.M.	
1608.—WILLIAMS, Edward, A.M. <sup>6</sup>	

<sup>1</sup> Attested a deed of Bishop Reyner bestowing "Hospitium Albi Monasterii" upon the Knights Hospitallers. (Eyton, *Antiquities of Shropshire*, x, p. 349.)

<sup>2</sup> Attests a deed in the thirteenth century.

<sup>3</sup> Presented by Edward III as custos of the heir of Fulk Fitz Warin. (Pat. 23 Edward III, 3, 21.)

<sup>4</sup> Vicar of Oswestry and Chancellor of the Diocese.

<sup>5</sup> V. Oswestry, 1591.

<sup>6</sup> V. Llanbrynmair, 1614. Deprived.

<sup>7</sup> Of Park Hall. Fellow of All Souls', Oxford, 1648; chaplain to the King; Canon of St. Asaph; Chancellor of the Diocese and Archdeacon of Shrewsbury.

<sup>8</sup> Canon, 1681. Author of Sermons edited by Dr. Sacheverell.

<sup>9</sup> Compiler of the very interesting *parochialia*. R. Selattyn, 1750.

<sup>10</sup> Of Aston. R. Selattyn, 1784.

<sup>11</sup> R. Selattyn, 1802.

<sup>12</sup> Compiler of the *Christian Hymn Book*, and a very prominent and successful educationist. R. Selattyn, 1846.



1851.—How, William Walsham, M.A., Wadham College, Oxon.; third Class Lit. Hum., and B.A., 1845; M.A., 1847; *ad eund.*, Durham, 1848; Rural Dean, 1853; Canon of St. Asaph, 1860; Proctor in Convocation for clergy of the diocese. Author of *Plain Words*, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd series; *Practical Sermons*; *Lent Sermons on Ps. LI*; *Pastor in Parochia*; *Commentary on the Four Gospels*, S.P.C.K.; *Three All Saints' Summers*, *Hymns*, etc. (p. 266).

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#### EBNAL CHAPEL.

THIS chapel, which was opened July 13th, 1869, consisted at the first of a simple nave, with south porch, western bell gable and vestry, but was enlarged in 1870 by a north transept. The walls are of brick, with dressings of Cefn stone, the seats open and free. The reredos of marble flanked with encaustic tiles was given by the Rev. Ambrose Short, the altar cloth and plate by Mrs. Williams-Wynn and Mrs. Wilson Jones. The font is perpendicular, with panels and foliations; the windows, except the double light on the south of the chancel, lancets; general character early English; architect, Mr. Edward Haycock. The original accommodation was for 108, and the cost £650, towards which the principal subscriptions were £100, in addition to the site and the harmonium, by Colonel Lovett of Belmont; £200 by Rev. W. W. How, rector; £25 by T. Maynard How; £20 each by two friends; £46:2:8 collection at the opening; £31 17s. offertories at Whittington and Frankton; and £58 accumulation of Whittington offertory surplus. The enlargement in 1870 to accommodate sixty more, cost a further sum of £200, the chief contributors being Colonel Lovett and Rev. W. W. How, £25 each; Captain Lovett, £20; Captain Lloyd, £15.

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#### PARK CHAPEL.

THIS is a small domestic chapel attached to Park Hall,<sup>5</sup> but is said to have been consecrated, at the same time with Aston Chapel, by Archbishop Parker. Over the entrance is inscribed "Petra et ostium Christus est." Internally it is wainscotted and ceiled in oak of Elizabethan character, and has a small gallery approached from the house. Three two light windows contain the heads in medallion of Our Lord,

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<sup>1</sup> A curious black and white house which belonged anciently to the Powells, from whom it was purchased by the Charltons, from whom it passed again by purchase, through the Kinchant's, to the present owner, the Hon. R. S. Cotton. In the additions now being made, the foundations of an old stone house have been discovered, with the walls nine feet thick.

the Virgin, and the four Evangelists. The chapel is noticed in the parish register for 1592, but it is not certain whether any public service has ever been performed in it.

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### HALSTON.<sup>1</sup>

IN Saxon times this lordship or manor belonged to Edric, but after the conquest it became the property of Warin, sheriff of Shropshire and ancestor of the Fitzalans, Earls of Arundel, by his marriage with Mellet Peverill, who had received it as a part of her fortune. By one of the Fitzalans the Knights Hospitallers<sup>2</sup> were introduced here, and between the years 1165 and 1187 Roger de Powys gave them certain lands in his fee of Witintun, "de dominio proprie mense sue," viz., *Kineshull* from the ford of Whittington Mill to the ford of Rus, *Ewinthir* from Kinishull to the foss of Berkelai, *Biket* and *Burlee* from the foss of Whittington meadow to the wood of Babengis, *i. e.*, Babin's Wood;<sup>3</sup> and this grant was sanctioned by King John in his general confirmation to the Hospitallers at Rouen, August 30, 1199. From an agreement made between the prior and the abbot of Haughmond in 1273 concerning *Domus Hospitalis Albi Monasterii* we learn that the abbot was to hold it for ever, but to pay "in manum Magistri Hospital Northwall" or his deputy at Halston 20s. a year, in return for which the Hospitallers on their part consented to resign all their rights and engaged to uphold the abbot and canons in theirs.<sup>4</sup> Other property, which the Hospitallers possessed in the diocese at this time, was the churches of Kinnerley, Tregynon, and Dolygynwal (*i. e.* Ysphytty), which, as belonging to this privileged order, were exempt from Papal taxation. In 1338 the principal revenues of the order in this Bailiwick were tithes of corn and hay in the demesne lands of Whittington and the tithes of Yewenhall and Kineshull per ann. £8. The church of Kynardesley £8, and that of Ellesmere £46 : 13 : 4. Among the annual charges were stipends of two chaplains ad mensam (*i. e.* who received their meals at the Preceptory), one for Halston, the other for the chapel in the castle, £2. Stipends of two clerks who collected the

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<sup>1</sup> Hallestan, Halystan, or Holy Stone. From very early times a noted sanctuary. See Pennant's *Tours in Wales*.

<sup>2</sup> Tanner says that it belonged first to the Templars and afterwards to the Hospitallers; but there is no evidence of the former ever having been here, whereas the latter were settled here nearly a century before they obtained the reversion of the confiscated estates of the Templars.

<sup>3</sup> Eyton, *Antiquities of Shropshire*, xi, p. 41. Some of these names may still be identified in Kinsall, Evenhall (*i. e.*, Y Faenol), Burghill, and Babin's Wood.

<sup>4</sup> *Llyfr C6ch*, fo. 24.

confraria or collections for the fraternity £2, and a corrody to Philip, a clerk who was entitled to sit at the table of the brethren, £4. The total receipts at this time, including Dolygynwal, etc., were £157:5:10, the expenses and payments £79 7s., leaving a balance of £77:18:10 to the treasurer for the general purposes of the order.<sup>1</sup> In the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1535 we have the following return:—

## TEMPORALIA.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
In Whittington.—Reddit' terr' d'nical' .	13	0	0			
„ Ellesmere.—Reddit Custumar' tenene'	4	1	6			
Firma vocat' Spytty cum una domo vocat' Dolygynwen ac cum perficuis Fraternitat' vocat' Saynt Joh'nes Frayry . . . .	26	0	0			
Firma vocat' Gwanas in M'ion . . . .	6	13	4			
„ „ Carnoo in d'nio de Powes . . . .	12	0	0			
„ „ Llanotlyn . . . .	7	0	0			
	<hr/>			69	14	10

## SPIRITUALIA.

Rectoria de Ellesmere . . . .	55	0	0			
Annualis porcio de Abb'i de Haumond . . . .	1	0	0			
Rectoria de Kynn'ley . . . .	20	0	0			
Annual' porcio de p'ochia de Whittington . . . .	5	0	0			
Fratern' S'ti Johannis, decan' de Marchia . . . .	6	0	0			
„ „ „ Tegynge . . . .	4	0	0			
	<hr/>			91	0	0
				<hr/>		
				£160	14	0
Decima inde				£6	1	5

At the dissolution, Henry VIII empowered by his letters patent John Lewster, Esq., to dispose of this manor (of Halston) to Alan Horde, who did homage for it, which alienation was cancelled by Queen Mary, who regranted it to the prior and brethren of St. John of Jerusalem, but was afterwards confirmed by Queen Elizabeth in the fifth year of her reign to William Horne, who eventually gave it to Edward Mytton of Habberley in exchange for other lands. In this family it continued until about twenty-five years ago, when it was purchased by the father of its present possessor, Edmund Wright, Esq. The manor was extra parochial and of exempt jurisdiction, [until by a late Act all peculiars were abolished] and the church a donative, two things which were vestiges of the status that existed under the rule of the Knights Hospitallers.

The church,<sup>2</sup> which was originally a private chapel to the preceptory, is an interesting building, with a framework of timber, and the

<sup>1</sup> Eyton, *Antiquities of Shropshire*, xi.

<sup>2</sup> Rector Roberts, writing in 1774, says that “near it stood the Abbey, which was taken down about fourscore years ago.”



intervals filled in with brick in lieu of the earlier wattle and dab. In form it consists of nave with a small projecting sacarium, and a square brick tower built about the end of the last century in lieu of the previous wooden campanile. The base of the present tower forms the porch. Internally, the walls are wainscotted in oak, and the seats run lengthwise as in a college chapel. It is lighted by square windows under the eaves. In the sacarium, which is raised two steps above the nave, are the Tables of the Law, the Lord's Prayer and Creed, with paintings of Moses and Aaron. Three other paintings are preserved on the walls.

The remains of two old fonts are preserved under the tower, a plain round one, and a perpendicular one with foliated panels. The one in ordinary use, a small bowl-shaped font of composite, stands in the south-east angle, opposite the pulpit and desk. A small gallery extends across the west end, and forming a frame or canopy to it are portions of an elaborate screen of the decorated period. Interments have taken place, both in and outside the chapel. An old stone coffin with circular head-space carries us back to the times of the ancient knights; the last interment brings us down to 1866. Registers, partly original and partly "copied from Halston Church Bibles and Common Prayer Book" are now preserved at Whittington and tell almost entirely of the baptisms, marriages, and burials of the ancient family of the Myttons.<sup>1</sup>

The chaplain in the time of the Hospitallers was entitled to his maintenance within the walls of the preceptory; in later times he has been for the most part a domestic chaplain at the hall, but in neither case was any special endowment attached.

## FRANKTON.<sup>2</sup>

THIS district, formed by an order in council July 5th, 1865, and gazetted July 7th, is consolidated out of the parishes of Whittington and Ellesmere, taking out of the former the townships of Old Marton and Frankton, and out of the latter those of New Marton and Ridge with portions of Cricket, Hardwick, and Tetchel, population 611. It is endowed with £60 : 4 : 7 out of the rectorial tithes of Whittington, charged upon two farms in Old Marton, and £70 out of the tithes of Hardwick, given by Earl Brownlow, which was met by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners with a grant of £50 per annum; the house

<sup>1</sup> In 1213 Roger Mytton of Halston married a daughter of Sir William Peveril.

<sup>2</sup> Also called "Welsh Frankton", to distinguish it from English Frankton in the parish of Ellesmere. *Domesday* notices that in the manor of Halston there were two "Wallenses" and one "*Francigena*".



*St. Andrews, Frankton.*





was added by subscription in 1868, at a cost of about £1,600.<sup>1</sup> The patronage is vested in the rector of Whittington and Earl Brownlow alternately.

In 1824 a school-room was built here by the Rev. C. A. A. Lloyd, rector of Whittington, and eleven years later the first brick was laid [by his son, Albany R. Lloyd,] of a chapel,<sup>2</sup> which was opened on St. Andrew's Day, 1835. This was an oblong building, with a long low rudely built projection from the east side, which formed the school-room, and opened into it with large folding doors for service. After Mr. Lloyd's death it was conveyed by his widow and daughter to the church. A sum of £100 for the building of a new church having been placed in the offertory by a non-parishioner,<sup>3</sup> a subscription list was immediately opened and another £100 each contributed by Bishop Short, Sir J. R. Kynaston, Mr. Wright, and Mr. Wybergh How; £50 each by John Stanton, Rev. W. W. How, and trustees of Bridgewater estates; £200 by the St. Asaph C.B.S., and £90 by the Incorporated C.B.S.; plans were prepared by Mr. E. Haycock of Shrewsbury,<sup>4</sup> and the foundation stone laid by Mrs. Wright of Halston, on Tuesday, April 28, 1857, and it was consecrated on Thursday, Aug. 3rd, 1858.<sup>5</sup>

The church, St. Andrew's, built in the Early Decorated style with plate tracery in the windows consists of chancel with sacrarium and north chamber<sup>6</sup> for organ and vestry; nave and massive tower surmounted by a spire,<sup>7</sup> and forming the principal entrance. The material is Cefn stone with bands of red Shelvock worked into the window mouldings, and a string-course with carved terminations; the roof covered with Staffordshire tiles. Internally, the chancel, which is raised five steps above the nave, is also divided from it by a low stone screen with panels of inlaid encaustic tiles, and a chancel arch supported upon shafts of Anglesey marble, with freestone corbels and carved brackets. It is furnished for choir and floored with encaustic tiles. The east window of three lights has a small medallion of St. Andrew, with the Agnus Dei in the tracery above, given by the architect; and two small windows are filled with diaper quarries by Rev. R. Maynard. A reredos of coloured marbles, with white cross inlaid

<sup>1</sup> Site, valued at £125, given by Rev. W. W. How; £750 by Queen Anne's Bounty; £100 each by Earl Brownlow, Bishop Short, and E. Wright of Halston; £70 Carey Fund; and £50 each by R. Lloyd, Esq., of Aston, Mrs. Evelyn Sutton, and the Vicar.

<sup>2</sup> Known at first as "The Bottle Chapel", from an old inn near it; but subsequently as St. Andrew's.

<sup>3</sup> T. Maynard How of Shrewsbury, brother of the Rector.

<sup>4</sup> To whom I am indebted for the drawing from which the accompanying photolithograph was taken.

<sup>5</sup> Total cost, £1,900. On the morning of the consecration there was a deficiency of £200. The offertories, however, amounted to £141 2s., and the remaining £60 was promised the same evening.

<sup>6</sup> Added by subscription in 1871.      <sup>7</sup> The spire was completed in 1863.

in the centre, and a super altar also of inlaid marbles, were added at Christmas 1870 by the vicar O. M. Fielden. The altar cloth was worked by Mrs. William Nihill, sister-in-law of the curate, whose husband died a missionary in Nengoni on the day of laying the foundation stone, and whose wedding day was that of the consecration, at which she was present. The nave has an open roof, [that of the chancel being of the saddle form] and is lighted by foliated two light windows; a small triangular window above the two western lancets is filled with stained glass by the boys and girls of the national school. The pulpit, which projects from the stone screen of the chancel, is of freestone, with foliated panels and desk carved with wild flowers. The font, an octagonal, standing upon a cruciform base with carved panels, was presented by Mrs. Wright.

The new national school was erected in 1864 and a class-room added in 1870. Towards the cost the rector contributed £100, which he had received for the copyright of "Plain Words."

*Vicar* 1865.—FEILDEN, Oswald Mosley, M.A., Christ Church, Oxford, and Wells Theological College; Deacon, 1861; Pr. 1862; Curate of Whittington, 1861-5.

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## THE UNITED DEANERY OF PENLLYN AND EDEIRNION.

In the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas, A.D. 1291, these two deaneries are given separately, but in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of Henry VIII, A.D. 1535, they are combined and have so continued ever since. The parishes included in it are :—

A.D. 1873.	Rural Deanery of A.D. 1291.
Bettws Gwervyl Gôch	Dinmael.
Corwen	} Edeirnion.
Glyndyfrdwy	
Rhug Chapel	
Gwyddelwern	
Llandrillo	
Llangar ( <i>vel</i> Cynwyd)	} Penllyn.
Llansantffraid	
Llandderfel	
Llanfor	
Frongoch	
Llawr-y-Bettws	
Rhosygwalia	
Llangower	
Llanuwchllyn	
Llanycil cum Bala	

### BETTWS GWERVYL GOCH.

THIS parish consists of the single township of Pencraig in the lordship of Garthmeilio and county of Merioneth, and has an area of 1,757 a. 3 r. 25 p., of the rateable value of £1,294 7s., with 59 inhabited houses and a population of 252.

Anciently in the deanery of Dinmael it was so returned in the *Taxatio* of 1291 as “*Ecclia de Bettus Guervyl tax’ £2 non decimat’*,” but in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1535 it appears under “*Decanat’ de Penllyn et Edurnyon*,” and is given as of the clear value of £5 : 4 : 4 per annum, minus 10s. 5½d. “*pro decima parte dno regi*.” The Commutation fixed the value of the rectory at £140, besides a modus of £2 : 1 : 6 for Bodtegir, which being partly in two parishes also paid a modus of £3 to the rector of Llangwm. The old parsonage, “*Ty’r Offeiriad*,” built about 1750, was taken down and a new one built in



1800, attached to which there are 13 acres of glebe. The patronage belongs to the bishop of the diocese.

The church, St. Mary's, August 15th,<sup>1</sup> consists of chancel and nave with a porch on south side, bearing the date 1606, and has an external entrance to the gallery, which is also ascended from within by steps consisting of massive blocks of oak. The chancel, as at Cerrig y drudion and Llanfihangel, is wider than the nave, and is further marked off from it by the remains in situ of the old rood screen. A portion of this screen stood in 1729 against one of the walls of the chancel, and was described as "an old loose frame which seems never to have been fixed, and has a great variety of the most venerable figures carved on it, that are near defaced."<sup>2</sup> Subsequently it was nailed against the north wall of the singing gallery, from whence it was taken down and cleaned of its coats of paint, and described as consisting of "six compartments set in a rude frame of modern carpentry, representing Our Lord on the Cross, the Virgin, St. John, the instruments of the Passion and some arabesque flower patterns. The lettering "Ecce Homo, Maria Johannes" seemed to belong to the fifteenth century."<sup>3</sup> It now forms a reredos, with the Crucifixion in the centre; but without the flower compartment, which had become rotten and disfigured. The oak roof is of good character, with bosses and mouldings, and there are a few fragments of glass similar to some at Cerrig y drudion. There is no proper font, but its place is supplied by a stoup, and there is a credence in the north chancel wall.

There are several fine old yew trees in the churchyard, one especially of very great antiquity, subdivided into no less than five trunks. In times past fairs are said to have been held within the yard, but they were put a stop to in the last century. Edward Lhuyd remarks that one might throw a stone out of it into the three parishes of Corwen, Llanfihangel, and Gwyddelwern. A sum of £50<sup>4</sup> was bequeathed by Mr. Griffith Roberts of Bodynlliw in 1812.

#### RECTORS.

1537.—David ap Jenn <sup>5</sup>	1660.—HUGHES, Griffith
1566.—Hugh ap Robert	1661.—EDWARDS, Owen
1589.—GRIFFITH, Evan	1683.—OWENS, Humphrey
1626.—ATKINS, Thomas <sup>6</sup>	1684.—WYNNE, David

<sup>1</sup> It is most probable that this is a later dedication in lieu of S. Gwervyl according to Tanner, but more likely of S. Elian, as we have here a Ffynnon Elian and a Rhyd-Elian. The perambulation, moreover, used to take place on January 14th, as at Llanelian in Rhos. The old custom of drinking sugar and water, *caru sucré*, used to prevail here as so often elsewhere, on Trinity Sunday.

<sup>2</sup> Rural Dean's Report, 1729.

<sup>3</sup> E. L. B. in *Arch. Cambrensis*, 1857, p. 63.

<sup>4</sup> Minus £5 legacy duty.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llangynyw.

<sup>6</sup> Deprived 1640.

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1688.—MORGAN, Samuel                    | 1760.—OWEN, Thomas, M.A. <sup>4</sup> |
| 1702.—SAMUEL, Edward <sup>1</sup>       | 1766.—LLOYD, John, B.A.               |
| 1720.—JONES, Edward                     | 1794.—HUGHES, John                    |
| 1728.—LEWIS, Lewis, B.A. <sup>2</sup>   | 1800.—MORGAN, John                    |
| 1755.—JONES, William, B.A. <sup>3</sup> | 1822.—EDWARDS, Edward.                |

1851.—HUGHES, William. St. Bees ; Deac., 1843 ; Pr., 1844 ; C. Cockerham, 1843 ; Llanbeulan, 1845 ; Rhuabon, 1846 ; Castle Caer-einion, 1848.

### CORWEN.

THE original parish embraced an extensive district comprising the twelve townships of Bonwm, Aberalwen, Treddol, Llygadog, Trewyn, Rhaggatt, Bodorlas, Hendreforfydd, Mwstwr, Tir Llanerch, Carrog, and Gwernihowel, having a total area of 12,646 acres, of which 11,972 are titheable, and 8,331 rateable, at £8,612 per annum ; with a population of 2,561. For ecclesiastical purposes, however, there has been a considerable modification by the transfer to Yspytty of the detached township of Gwernihowel with its population of 97 ; to Llansantffraid, of the townships of Rhaggat, Bodorlas, and Hendreforfydd ; and to the new ecclesiastical district of Glyndyfrdwy, of those of Carrog, Mwstwr, and Tir Llannerch ; and for the remaining portion there is the further provision of the chapel of ease at Rhug, and of a new chapelry now being started in Treddol. The population remaining to the parish church is about 1,800.

The *Taxatio* of 1291, containing the first ecclesiastical notice of this church, describes it with its several portions and portionists, clerical and lay, as follows : “ Eccl’ia de Corvaen tax’, porcio Eynyon ap Ed-neved, £8 : 13 : 4 ; dec’, 17s. 4d. ; porcio Kenwric ap David, £5 ; dec’, 10s. ; porcio Gwyn ap Tudyr, £5 ; non dec’ ; porcio Gregorii Presbyteri, £3 : 6 : 8 ; non dec’ ; porcio vicarii, £6 ; dec., 12s.” Whence we gather that the first three portionists held the rectorial tithes ; the remaining two, the vicar and probably a chaplain, the other third, or vicar’s proper portion.

Before the year 1296 a moiety of the said rectorial tithes had become appropriated to the Dean and Chapter of St. Asaph for the maintenance of the cathedral fabric, for in that year the said appropriators agreed to resign their moiety into the Bishop’s hands from

<sup>1</sup> R. Llangar, 1720. Whilst rector here Mr. Samuel published at Shrewsbury his *Bucheddan yr Apostolion a’r Efyngylwyr*, 1704 ; *Gwirionedd y Greffydd Gristionogol*, a translation of Grotius’ work, 1716 ; and *Holl Ddyledswydd Dyn*, a translation of the *Whole Duty of Man*, 1718.

<sup>2</sup> R. Bodvari, 1726.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanfihangel, 1760 ; V. Llangwm, 1784.

<sup>4</sup> V. Bettws Caedewen, 1735.

the time that Llanasa should become vacant, and available for that purpose.<sup>1</sup>

The next notice occurs in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* (Henry VIII), 1535, where we have the rectory at £15:5:10;<sup>2</sup> “inde pro xma, £1:10:7”; the vicarage at £7:0:11; dec., 14s. 1½d. In 1542 a “Realis Compositio”, or agreement, relating to the temporalities was made between the rector and vicar, by which, in consideration of the great extent of the parish, and its laboriousness, the whole of the tithes were divided into two equal portions;<sup>3</sup> and this rule has prevailed from that time downwards. Hence the Commutation<sup>4</sup> assigned £410 to the rector, and the same sum to the vicar.

On the death of the last sinecure rector, Mr. Cleaver, in 1865, the rectorial tithes were divided by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners between the rector of Llansantffraid, £105 ls., and the respective vicars of Ysppyty, £34; Glyndyfrdwy, £226:4:6; and Corwen, £70. The vicarage was constituted into a rectory by an Order in Council in 1867, and has an excellent glebe house erected in 1834,<sup>5</sup> and about twenty-six acres of land.<sup>6</sup> Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The parish church, dedicated in the names of the Armorican missionaries, Mael and Sulien, who lived in the sixth century, and whose joint festival was observed on May 13th,<sup>7</sup> has lately been very effect-

<sup>1</sup> “Decanus et cap'm Assav' concedunt Ep'o quod ipsi omni jure *medietatis rectorie* de Corvaen renunciabunt quocunque tempore rectoria de Llanhasaph vacare contegerit, dictiq' decanus et cap'm possessionem ejusdem nacti fuerint ad fabricam et luminaria Ecclesie Assavens', quâ rectoria de Llanhasaph dicti decanus et cap'm ad predictum usum gaudebunt, prout antiquo tempore fuerat. Dat' a'o 1296.”—*Llyfr Côch*, 40A.

<sup>2</sup> One of the items of this is “Portio appropriat' dict' rector' £1:6:8”, which probably represents the tithes of Gwernihwel, in which the vicar had no share.

<sup>3</sup> Approved by Robert (Parfew), Bishop, and witnessed by Fulco Salisbury, Dean, Tho. Knight, William (Jenn)ings, and John Griffith, Canons of St. Asaph.—Hengwrt MS., 484.

<sup>4</sup> The following moduses exist for the hay and corn tithes, viz., £1:7:6 for Penybont, 176 a. 3 r. 31 p.; 10s. for Carrog Ucha, 247 a. 1 r. 1 p. (anciently the residence of Owen Glyndwr, whose dining-table may still be seen there); and £3 15s. for Rhaggatt, 226 a. Some lands in Plas Isa, 122 a. 9 p.; and part of Rhug demesne, 190 a. 10 p., are tithe free.

<sup>5</sup> Cost £1,324.

<sup>6</sup> An exchange of land lying around Rhug Chapel was effected in 1833 for the site and surrounding fields of the present rectory.

<sup>7</sup> Browne Willis gives the dedication to St. Sulien alone, and the festival September 1st; but as a great fair used to be held here on May 13th, in the tolls of which certain “abbadiaid”, i. e., owners of abbey lands in the neighbourhood (Caenog once belonging to the monks of Strata Marcella), shared with the lord of the manor, I think that is a sufficient index to the proper dedication. The two saints were, moreover, companion missionaries.



ively restored from the plans of Mr. Ferry, F.S.A. The legend of its original foundation, which states that all attempts to build the church in any other spot than where stood the "Carreg y Big yn y fach Rewlyd", *i. e.*, "the pointed stone in the icy nook," were frustrated by the influence of certain adverse powers, appears also to supply the clue to the name, viz., "Corfaen", "the enclosure or choir of the stone," rather than "Corwen", "the white choir or church". This stone is now built into the wall of the north porch, but probably marked at first one of the mission stations of the district; another of which is indicated by the stone marked with a cross, which now forms the lintel of the priest's door on the south side of the chancel, and is commonly shown as the impress of Owen Glyndwr's dagger; and which, from its association with his name, may very likely have been transferred hither from "Bryn y Groes," in Carrog Isa, on his estate.<sup>1</sup> Another of these stations is pointed out in "Y Groes lwyd," near Ffynnon Sulien (the founder's well), on the opposite side of the river.<sup>2</sup> The plan of the church was cruciform, the chancel being very long, and having at its east end three narrow lancets, as at Llanaber in the same county. The date, 1777, upon the chancel-ceiling, appears to indicate the time when the narrow lancets which had existed in 1729 throughout the church, were either closed up or replaced by round-headed Hanoverian windows. This is also the date of the two larger bells, that of the small one being 1840. The restoration embraced a thorough rehabilitation of the chancel, nave, and north transept; the removal of that on the south, and the addition of a south aisle, the corner-stone of which was laid August 22, 1871,<sup>3</sup> and the church reopened for divine service on Easter Tuesday, April 2, 1872. The chancel, which is laid with rich encaustic tiles by Maw, has a reredos<sup>4</sup> of alabaster inlaid with marble emblems; and the altar-rails faced with a band of quatrefoils from the ancient ceiling of the sacrarium. The eastern lancets have been reopened, and filled with stained glass by Clayton and Bell, illustrative of the Annunciation, Crucifixion, and Resurrection of Our Lord as their principal subjects, with smaller illustrations beneath, of his Birth, Entombment, and Appearance to Mary. They are memorial to Thomas Roberts of Bonwm, ob. 1834, and Elizabeth his wife, ob. 1820.<sup>5</sup> A two-light window on the north side, which represents the Annunciation and the Adoration of the Shepherds, is a filial memorial to John and Mary Jones of Plas Isa.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The shaft of another cross, with some remains of interlaced work upon it, stands in the churchyard.

<sup>2</sup> Two names that occur here, indicative of female recluses in times past, are *Caer Lleian* and *Letty'r Ladi*, unless, indeed, this last be a corruption of "*Lletty Wladys*."

<sup>3</sup> By Hon. C. H. Wynn of Rhug.

<sup>4</sup> Gift of Archdeacon Ffoulkes.

<sup>5</sup> The gift of Mr. E. C. Healey of Cranley, Surrey.

<sup>6</sup> Erected by Thomas Eyton Jones and Mary Ann Samuelson, 1872. Glass by Forrest of Liverpool.

Beneath this window, under a semicircular arch, lies the incised effigy of a former vicar in his sacerdotal vestments; the upper part of the figure being in relief, and holding a chalice on the breast; and the lower portion a flat surface with the inscription, + HIC : JACET : IORWERTH : SVLIEN : VICARIVS : DE : CORVAEN : ORA : PRO : EO. It belongs to about the end of the fourteenth or beginning of the fifteenth century. The nave, which is divided from the chancel by a freestone arch, has what is called a queen-post roof, with the space filled in with trefoils and quatrefoils. The pulpit, of Caen stone, stands on the north side, and is "in memory of Jane Jones, daughter of John Jones of Pentrewyn", 1871.<sup>1</sup> The eagle-lectern,<sup>2</sup> of oak, is also a memorial to the Rev. Morgan Hughes, for thirty-six years vicar. The old Norman font, with its cable-pattern, dates from about 1100. The monuments have been all placed against the west wall, near which also stands the old parish chest. The handsome standards are by Lloyd and Lloyd of Birmingham. The seats, which are open, and of red pine, are calculated to accommodate 400. The total cost of the restoration was £2,500.<sup>3</sup>

The altar-plate, consisting of silver flagon, chalice, paten, and almsdish, was presented in 1724 by Mrs. Lumley Salesbury of Rhug.

The National School for boys and girls, with master's house, was rebuilt<sup>4</sup> in 1868 at a cost of £1,200.

An Infant School was added in 1872 at a cost of £260. Till the year 1845 the school had been kept in one of the transepts of the church. It has a small endowment of £4, left by a former member of the Rhug family.

*Charities*:—1. Mr. Roger SALESBURY of Rhug built six small almshouses,<sup>5</sup> and by his will, 27th June, 1719, added an adjoining house and also £200, the interest of which should be applied to the clothing of six poor old men of the parish, with a preference to those connected with Rhug.

2. Mrs. Lumley SALESBURY bequeathed in 1750 the sum of £400 for clothing of eight old women from this parish, and two each from those of Llangar and Gwyddelwern. The owners of Rhug are trustees of the aforesaid charities.

3. Mr. Hugh JONES, of Ddol, in 1736 bequeathed £300, the interest to be divided into fourths, for the parishes of Corwen, Llandrillo, Llanycil, and Llanfor and Llangwm.

<sup>1</sup> The donor, Mrs. Williams, also gave £100 towards an organ.

<sup>2</sup> The gift of Miss Willock.

<sup>3</sup> Chief contributors: Hon. C. H. Wynn, £500; W. Wagstaffe, £200; Rector W. Richardson, M.A., £100; Mrs. Lloyd of Rhaggatt, and J. Lloyd of Plas Isa, each £50; R. Blezzard, £30; Dr. Walker, £25; E. C. Healey, £25 and east windows.

<sup>4</sup> The previous one had been built in 1845, at a cost of £240.

<sup>5</sup> Rural Dean's Report, 1732.

4. Consol Charities, £277,<sup>1</sup> secured on Turnpike Trust ; interest distributed among decayed farmers and poor.

5. Rent-charge of £1 per annum on Mardy Farm, by Rev. ——— HUMPHREYS.

6. Interest of £20 on Turnpike Trust, by Mrs. MAURICE.

*Lost* :—Edward PARRY of Mwstwr, £40 ; Thomas JONES, £5 ; and Jane JONES of Trewyn, £5.

THE COLLEGE.—This institution, founded and endowed by William Eyton, Esq., of Plas Warren, for six widows of clergymen officiating within the county of Merioneth, belongs rather to the diocesan than to the parochial charities. Of the sum of £1,200, the proceeds of his bequest, £272 were spent in the erection of three houses ; and from the remainder, two widows get £40 per annum each ; one house being at present unoccupied.

## SINECURE RECTORS.

1537.—ELLIS, Roger <sup>2</sup>	—— WYNNE, Bp. <i>in commend.</i>
1551.—PYDLESTON, Lancelot <sup>3</sup>	1727.—WYNNE, John <sup>7</sup>
1556.—CLENNOCK, Maurice, LL.B. <sup>4</sup>	1745.—LISLE, Bp. <i>in commend.</i>
1560.—MEYRIC, Edmund, LL.D. <sup>5</sup>	1748.—PALMER, Lyttelton
1606.—RAINSFORD, Henry, A.M.	1750.—MORGAN, John, B.D. <sup>8</sup>
1666.—EYTON, Owen, A.M. <sup>6</sup>	1774.—SHIPLEY, W. Davies, A.M. <sup>9</sup>
1705.—WELLS, Walter	1782.—PRETYMAN, Geo., D.D. <sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Jane Jones, £150 ; William Jones, £50 ; Roger Jones and Mrs. Wynne, £20 each ; David Jones, Jane Jones, and Robert Parry, each £10.

<sup>2</sup> Signatory to the "Realis Compositio" in 1542.

<sup>3</sup> Deprived for being married.

<sup>4</sup> Or Clynog, a native of Carnarvonshire, LL.B. of Oxford ; Preb. of York, and an officer in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury under Cardinal Pole. Nominated by Queen Mary to the see of Bangor ; but owing to her death he, like Goldwell, fled to Rome, where he became the first rector of the English College.

<sup>5</sup> Of Bodorgan. Brother of Rowland Meyrick, Bishop of Bangor. Preb. of Lichfield ; Archdeacon of Bangor, 1560 ; Chancellor of St. Asaph, 1570.

<sup>6</sup> Of Plas Isa in this parish, rector and vicar ; Canon of St. Asaph, 1685 ; S. R. Llanarmon yn Iâl, 1687 ; Treasurer of Bangor, 1689.

<sup>7</sup> Of Garthmeilio. R. Cerrigydrudion, 1725-31 ; Canon, 1727 ; R. Llanymyneich, 1731 ; Preb. of Meliden, 1734 ; chaplain to Bishop Wynne.

<sup>8</sup> Priest of the Chapel Royal ; Preb. of Meifod, 1749 ; chaplain to Bishop Drummond.

<sup>9</sup> Son of Bishop Shipley. S. R. Ysgeifiog, 1770 ; V. Wrexham, 1771 ; S. R. Llangwm, 1772 ; Chancellor, 1773 ; Dean, 1774 ; S. R. Llanarmon yn Iâl, 1782.

<sup>10</sup> Bishop of Lincoln, 1787-1820. Author of *Elements of Christian Theology*, two vols., 1799. He took the additional name of Tomline.



- 1786.—PRETTYMAN, John, M.A.<sup>1</sup> 1809.—CLEAVER, William, M.A.<sup>4</sup>  
 1796.—SNEYD, Ralph, LL.B.<sup>2</sup> 1812.—CLEAVER, John Francis,  
 1808.—DEAN, John, B.D.<sup>3</sup> M.A.<sup>5</sup>

## VICARS.

- 1533.—TOONE, John 1665.—EYTON, Owen, A.M.<sup>12</sup>  
 1533.—Lewis ap David<sup>6</sup> 1705.—EYTON, Kenric, A.M.<sup>13</sup>  
 1573.—SALESBURY, Robt., LL.D.<sup>7</sup> 1713.—HUMPHREYS, William  
 1578.—ROBERTS, John<sup>8</sup> 1747.—PARRY, Randolph, A.B.<sup>14</sup>  
 1581.—EDNYVET, Humphrey, A.M. 1747.—LEWIS, Robert, A.M.<sup>15</sup>  
 1624.—HUMPHREYS, Richard 1792.—WILLIAMS, Hugh, A.M.<sup>16</sup>  
 1637.—SPARK, Archibald, B.D.<sup>9</sup> 1797.—CLOUGH, Roger Butler,  
 1639.—POWELL, Edward, A.M. M.A.<sup>17</sup>  
 1641.—MAURICE, Andrew, A.M.<sup>10</sup> 1811.—CLOUGH, Roger Butler<sup>18</sup>  
 1660 (?).—EDWARDS, Robert<sup>11</sup> 1830.—HUGHES, Morgan.

1867.—RICHARDSON, William, M.A., Scholar of Jesus College, Oxford; fourth class in Litt. Hum., 1853; chaplain of Rhug, 1854; P. C. St. Mary's, Llwylarth, 1859.

<sup>1</sup> Brother of preceding, and Archdeacon of Lincoln.

<sup>2</sup> Preb. Faenol, 1806.

<sup>3</sup> Preb. Faenol, 1808. Resigned, 1809.

<sup>4</sup> Son of Bishop Cleaver. S. R. Llanfor and Preb. Faenol, 1809; R. Newtown, 1811; R. Denbigh, 1814.

<sup>5</sup> Brother of preceding. R. Newtown, 1814. Exchanged for Great Coxwell, Berks, 1815; Canon of St. Asaph, 1815.

<sup>6</sup> Signatory to the "Realis Compositio" in 1542.

<sup>7</sup> Younger son of Sir John Salesbury of Llewenni. V. Rhuabon.

<sup>8</sup> R. Cerrigydrudion, 1581; R. Erbistock, 1585; V. St. Martin's, 1588; S. R. Llandrillo yn Rhos, 1602.

<sup>9</sup> V. Choral, 1632; R. Hirnant and Canon, 1637; V. Northop, 1639; Preb. Llanefydd, 1662.

<sup>10</sup> Dean of St. Asaph, 1634; S. R. Llansannan, 1641.

<sup>11</sup> This living was for six years vacant after the sequestration, and Maurice died in 1653 or 1654. R. Halkin, 1666.

<sup>12</sup> Of Plas Isa in this parish, rector and vicar; Canon of St. Asaph, 1685; S. R. Llanarmon yn Iâl, 1687; Treasurer of Bangor, 1689.

<sup>13</sup> A relative of Owen Eyton, whom he succeeded in this vicarage and the treasurership of Bangor Cathedral. R. Llandegfan, 1700.

<sup>14</sup> V. St. Martin's, 1745. Exchanged vicarage of Corwen for Llanyblodwel, 1747. Canon, 1746; R. Llandyssil, 1753; V. Guilsfield, 1755.

<sup>15</sup> V. Pennant and R. Llangynog, 1744; R. Nannerch, 1746; V. Mold, 1749; Canon, 1760.

<sup>16</sup> Chaplain to Bishop Bagot. R. Llangynyw, 1790; Canon, 1792; R. Clocaenog. Exchanged for rectory of Llanelidan, 1796. R. Halkin, 1797.

<sup>17</sup> V. Thackham, Sussex, which he exchanged for Gwyddelwern, V. 1791; Canon, 1797.

<sup>18</sup> Son of the above.

## RHUG CHAPEL.

THIS chapel was founded in 1637 by Col. William Salesbury of Rhug, the loyal Governor of Denbigh Castle. It does not appear to have ever been consecrated, nor were the Sacraments formerly administered in it. It was rather a private or domestic chapel locally situate within the parish of Corwen. An early notice mentions that Rhug is not a township, and that it pays no tithes, but is taxed with Ayl-haiarn,<sup>1</sup> a township of Gwyddelwern. A subsequent notice also mentions that "the demesne of Rhug, which they call a township, pays no tithe at all", and adds that "as some of its twenty-eight fields are let to persons of neighbouring parishes, these bring their ewes to cast the lambs, and so pay no tithe of them either to their own minister or to the rector or vicar of Corwen."<sup>2</sup> At this time there was no endowment; but in 1749 one is mentioned of £12 per annum,<sup>3</sup> but its origin is not stated. It is a charge upon Carrog Farm. The curate or chaplain used to be appointed by the owner of Rhug, with the consent of the vicar of Corwen, who as a rule himself held it;<sup>4</sup> but in 1859 Sir R. W. Vaughan, Bart., left a sum of £2,000 in 3 per Cent. Cons. to the Bishop of St. Asaph, the interest of which should be paid for the support of a curate for the said chapel; the appointment being vested in the owner of Rhug, subject to the approval of the rector of Corwen.

The chapel, consisting of a simple nave and chancel, contains some curious carving and painting of the period to which its foundation belongs, 1637, and once bore a considerable resemblance to the private chapel in the Gwydir grounds, near Llanrwst; but in 1855 this one was much renovated and improved, the screen inserted, and the churchyard-cross brought down from its old position on the gable, and placed in its present site. The rude and simple benches of the nave are of much earlier date than the seventeenth century; and it is not unlikely that they, and perhaps some other portions of the building, may have been transferred hither from the extinct chapel of Ael-haiarn.<sup>5</sup> The east window is divided into three compartments, having the Crucifixion in the centre, with the Nativity and the Resurrection on either side; and in the tracery a quatrefoil of the Ascension. It is in memory of Col. Salesbury.

<sup>1</sup> Edward Lhuyd, manuscript note in Hengwrt MSS.

<sup>2</sup> Rural Dean's Report, 1729.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 1749.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Hughes, the last vicar, having declined, D. Ll. Jones, V. Gwyddelwern, was appointed.

<sup>5</sup> See below, under Llanaelhaiarn.

## GLYNDYFRDWY.

THE townships of Carrog, Mwstwr, and Tir-Llannerch, and portions of Bonwm and Rhaggatt, in the parish of Corwen, were constituted into an ecclesiastical district by an Order in Council dated Nov. 20th, 1863. The area embraced amounts to 3,096 acres, and the population to 626. It is endowed out of the tithes of the sinecure rectory with £226 4s. per annum; but there is no house or glebe. Patron, the Bishop of the diocese.

The church, St. Thomas', designed by T. H. Wyatt, is in the Early English style, and comprises chancel and nave, with a north door and north-east vestry. The fabric is built of the local stone, with dressings, quoins, and mullions of Cefn stone. The east window is a triplet of three trefoil lights; those of the nave, double trefoils with geometrical openings. The west end has a double light in the centre, single lights on each side, and a small rose above, the whole being surmounted by a double bell-gable. The pulpit, of open woodwork on a stone base, is entered from the vestry; and the seats, which are open, provide accommodation for 200. The foundation-stone was laid by the Hon. Mrs. Tottenham; and the church was consecrated on Nov. 3, 1859; the total cost being £1,328.<sup>1</sup>

A National School was erected in 1872 at a cost of £420,<sup>2</sup> the site being given by Col. Tottenham.

## VICARS.

1859.—MORGAN, Daniel, St. David's, Lampeter.<sup>3</sup>

1865.—EVANS, Evan.

1871.—DAVIES, Richard, St. Bees; Deac., 1860; Pr., 1862; C. Llan-dderfel, 1860; P. C. Llawr y Bettws, 1864-71.

## GWYDDELWERN.

THE three divisions of this parish, Cwm, Uwchmynydd, and Uwchafon, which were formerly rated separately for the church and for the poor, contain respectively the following townships, viz., in Cwm, Maesgwyn, Maesgammedd, Bonyronn and Trebach, Meiarth and Aelhaiarn;

<sup>1</sup> Chief contributors: Bishop Short, £100; Col. Tottenham, the Rev. M. Hughes, vicar of Corwen, and R. Davies, Esq., £50 each; Diocesan Church Building Society, £200; Incorporated ditto, £50; J. H. Ainsworth, £25; T. Mainwaring, £20; Manchester Cooperative Society, £20.

<sup>2</sup> National Society, £60; Diocesan Board of Education, £50; Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, £13; Col. and Mrs. Tottenham, £73; Bishop Short and Mrs. Lloyd, £35, etc.

<sup>3</sup> Until the death of Rector J. F. Cleaver in 1865, it was only a Stipendiary Curacy.



in *Uwchmynydd*, Bodgynfel and Clegir; and in *Uwchafon* Cynwyd fawr, Cynwyd fechan, Perseithydd and Bodheulog, embracing an area of 7,860 acres of the rateable value of £5,667, with a population of 481. But as three centuries ago Gwyddelwern had absorbed within itself the ancient parish of "Llanaelhaiarn:" so a few years ago its own townships of Cynwyd fawr, Cynwyd fechan, and Bodheulog were transferred to the parish of Llangar, the parish church of which now stands within the added portion; and that of Perseithydd to the new district of Llawr y Bettws.

There is no document to show how early the rectory was appropriated to the vicars choral of the cathedral, but it is recorded as such in the *Taxatio* of 1291, in which we find "Eccl'ia de Gwyddelwern' tax' Rectoria £10, Vicaria £3 non deciat'. Et quia illa eccl'ia est decem vicar' in eccl'ia Assaphens' quib's incumbunt missam celebrar' de virg'ie ib'm et eidem int'esse quor' cujusl't beneficiu' p' se sumptu non attingit £4 non deciat." From which we gather that its then appropriation, whatever the original occasion and purpose may have been, was more especially directed to the recently introduced cultus of the Virgin, just as was the case with the appropriation of Nantglyn, 1336; and we further learn the limit which exempted churches from the payment of the tenth.

The *Valor* of 1535 also gives it as an appropriation to the four vicars choral, valued at £15 : 4 : 5, inclusive of the sums of £8 : 13 : 4 paid by Griffith Lloyd ap Elis for the rectorial rentcharge, and £5 by the vicar for his rented portion.<sup>1</sup> In 1550 the rectory of Llanaelhaiarn was added to Gwyddelwern and the vicar became appropriator thereof. The commuted value of the whole tithes is £700,<sup>2</sup> which is divided into fifths, of which four shares, *i. e.*, £560 belong to the four vicars choral of St. Asaph, and the remaining £140 to the vicar, who has moreover a glebe house built in 1840 for £458 and five acres of land.<sup>3</sup> Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The church, dedicated to St. Beuno,<sup>4</sup> April 21, consists of chancel and nave with western gallery and belfry, and a south porch. The general condition is very dilapidated, but it shows proofs of having

<sup>1</sup> "Firma ejusdem rectorie ad firmam p' ann' dimiss' Gruff' Lloid ap Elissa ultra vad' curat' £8 : 13 : 4; vad' curat' p' annu' £5."

<sup>2</sup> Only 6,800 acres are titheable. Among the moduses were 10*d.* for Tybrith, in Aelhaiarn, 12 acres; 5*s.* for Tymawr, now the Crown; 6*s.* 8*d.* for Brynecyffo; and 10*s.* for Caenog and Highgate, 239 a. 1 r. 25 p. This last item is very interesting as it relates to lands granted in 1176 by Meredith ap Howell, lord of Edeirnion, to the monks of Ystrad Marchell; which grant Elis ap Madoc confirmed in 1198, adding, moreover, thereto, for a sum of £8, other lands in the parish.

<sup>3</sup> A grant of £400 out of the parliamentary grant was made by Queen Anne's Bounty in 1812; and another grant of £200 in 1839, to meet a similar sum given by the Rev. William Cleaver.

<sup>4</sup> Near it are Ffynnon Beuno and Gwern Beuno.

formerly been a handsome edifice. The east end has been rebuilt at no very distant period, and rough tie-beams thrown at the same time across the chancel to hold the bulging north wall in its place.<sup>1</sup> The perpendicular east window of five lights has been happily retained, and still preserves fragments of rich early glass of a star and diamond pattern, as well as some aureoles which once crowned the heads of apostles and saints. An early English window stands on either side of the chancel, and on the south there still remains the priest's door of about the same date. The roof retains a portion of its old panelled ceiling, with bosses at the intersections, and the seats are rude open benches without backs, with the names of certain tenements carved upon them to indicate their former owners. The lower portion of the old rood screen still remains *in situ* at the division of the chancel and nave, and retains some of its original traceried panels. The desk on the north wall bears the inscription, in characters of the sixteenth century, "Cronogr Dirigatur oratio nostra quasi incesum in visv patris gratie Sedes impens Ro Davies structa in vsvm parochie Gwyddelwern." And beneath it the Ucheldre seat, formerly belonging to the Kyffins, has several panels of Jacobean carving, representing dragons, pelicans, doves, etc. The walls of the nave are in good preservation, and the old oak roof with its trefoiled braces and collars is of good design, but some of the seats are primitive and literally more like pens than anything else. The gallery bears the inscription "Gabriel Hughes, 1634, A geisio ddaioni a ennill ewyllys da ; ond a geisio ddrwg, iddo ei hun y daw. Diar xi, 27." Beneath it stands the old parish chest, formed of a single trunk and secured by its four locks. The windows of the nave are some of them of three lights with segmental heads, and others of two with flat heads, but all of them with foliations. The old north door has been closed up and the present entrance lies through a porch on the opposite side. The font is octagonal and plain, of perpendicular date ; the communion table, which is small, was "the gift of Gwen Davies, 1752."

A school was built some years ago adjoining the churchyard, but is now being superseded by a new Board School. A sum of £200, secured on mortgage on Ddol Fawr, was bequeathed by Mr. Hugh Roberts of Caer Goed in Llanfor for the education of children in Uwchafon and Llangar, and the interest, £6 per annum, is now paid to the rector and wardens of Llangar and the overseers of Gwyddelwern.

The other charities of the poor embrace—

1. Mortgage of £181<sup>2</sup> on *Ty'r Merched* at 4½ per cent., £8 2s.

<sup>1</sup> The induction of Galfridus ap Ienn to the vicarage is stated to be "in vicariam perpetuam ecclesie predictae *noviter erecte*" ("compositio inter vicar. choral. et vicarium de Gwyddelwern in 1538"), which probably has a special reference to the chancel.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Jane Jones, widow of Maurice Jones of Llanrhaiadr, bequeathed £100; Roger Jones gave £25; Ellen Humphreys and Edward Williams, £20 each; Thomas Gabriel, £10; Rev. Mr. Eyton, £5; and John Pierce, £1.

2. Rentcharge of £1 on Mardy, by the Rev. W. Humphreys, 1786.
3. Clothing of two poor women, by will of Mrs. Lumley Salesbury, of Rhug.
4. *Cum Division*, interest of £40 by Roger Jones of Bryn Saith Marchog.
5. Rentcharge of 5s. on Nant yr Erwhaidd, by Ellis Davies.
6. Ditto of 5s. on Ty Nant, by Peter Williams.
7. [6s. on account of £6 borrowed charity.]
8. *Uwchafon or Uwchalwen*, interest of £90,<sup>1</sup> by Morris Edwards, 1822.
9. [*Uwchmynydd*, for £36 by Griffith Roberts, borrowed by parish, rate of £1 16s.]

## VICARS.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1537.—David ap John  | 1689.—JONES, William                       |
| 1538.—Galfrid ap Ienn  | 1691.—LLOYD, J. <sup>6</sup>               |
| 1540.—Griffith ap John   | 1702.—WYNNE, Robert <sup>7</sup>           |
| 1560.—John ap Harri  | 1713.—WYNNE, Edward <sup>8</sup>           |
| 1594.—ROBERTS, Peter <sup>2</sup>  | 1740.—DAVIES, David <sup>9</sup>           |
| 1632.—HUGHES, Gabriel <sup>3</sup>   | 1753.—EVANS, Robert, B.A.                  |
| 1639.—FFOULKES, J.   | 1770.—EVANS, William, B.A.                 |
| 1643.—LEWIS, Stephen <sup>4</sup>  | 1786.—MAURICE, Robert <sup>10</sup>        |
| 1662.—WILLIAMS, Thomas   | 1791.—CLOUGH, Roger B., M.A. <sup>11</sup> |
| 1675.—FFOULKES, J. <sup>5</sup>  | 1797.—MOSTYN, John                         |
| 1678.—JONES, Roger   | 1801.—HUGHES, Thomas <sup>12</sup>         |
| 1685.—WYNNE, David   | 1809.—JONES, John.                         |
| 1829.—JONES, Daniel Lewis, B.A., Jesus College, Oxon.; Deac., 1826; Pr., 1827; C. Disserth, 1826-29. |  |

## LLANAELHAIARN.

In the *Taxatio* of 1291, under "Decanatus de Edurmyawn" we first meet with "Ecel'ia de Lanhehaearn," which is taxed at £1 : 6 : 8, but not subject to tenths. About the same time we also find it rated for some call or other, probably one of Edward's levies,<sup>13</sup> as "De Llanaelhaiarn xii<sup>d</sup>. Again in the *Valor* of 1535 it occurs as "Rectoria de Llanelhairne valet 13s. 4d. decima 1s. 4d.

<sup>1</sup> *I. e.*, £100 minus legacy duty.      <sup>2</sup> V. Nantglyn, 1581.

<sup>3</sup> Son of Hugh Roberts.      V. Llangwm; R. Cerrig y drudion, 1639.

<sup>4</sup> Deprived.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llanfihangel G. Myfyr, 1662.

<sup>6</sup> R. Llangar, 1689.

<sup>7</sup> R. Llanuwchllyn, 1681.

<sup>8</sup> Son of the above.

<sup>9</sup> R. Llanfihangel G. Myfyr, 1753.

<sup>10</sup> V. Choral, 1782; R. Llanelidan, 1796; V. Rhuddlan, 1800; R. Llanbedr, 1807.

<sup>11</sup> V. Thackham, Essex, which he exchanged for this; Canon of St. Asaph, 1793; V. Corwen, 1797.

<sup>12</sup> V. Cilcain, 1809.

<sup>13</sup> *Supra*, p. 57.



To the above the following note of Bishop Tanner's evidently refers, where it is stated that "In some of the old books under this deanery is Rect' de Aelhayarn, val. 26 Henry VIII, 14s. 4d. dec. 1s. 4d. which the vicar of Gwidelwern paid annuals and lactuals for, there being formerly a chapel called Capel Aelhayarn in ye parish which belongs to Roger Salisbury of Rug (long book). 30 July, 1556, Bishop Goldwell upon examination and inspection of a union said to be made of the Church of Llanalhairn to the Church of Gwithelwern with the consent of Ric. Pigot, proprietor of Llanalhaiarn, admonished the vicar of Gwid, to serve the cure of L. and to say mass alternately in those churches upon pain of losing the profits of the said Church of Llanalhayarn (Act book). And in the visitation of February following the vicar of Gwid is called as appropriator of Llanalhairne. The consolidation is extant at length, made Sept. 1550. Llanalhayrne then said to be a rectory, but not to exceed £1 : 6 : 8 per an."<sup>1</sup>

It would seem from the above that Bishop Tanner mistook Rhug Chapel for the one in question, and possibly some of the quaint fifteenth century benches may have been removed thither from thence. But a note in the autograph of Edw. Lhuyd, who died in 1702, gives a much more correct and definite clue to its long lost site: for he describes the parish of Gwyddelwern as being in "length from a small brook a field beyond Cappel Ayl Hayarne on the borders of Llan Elidan and Derwen to Rhyd y Glavis in Llan Drillo five miles"; and he adds "Cappel Ayl Hayarn on ye borders of Llan Elidan ruinous time out of mind. There's only an ew tree at present".<sup>2</sup>

"Only an ew tree"; but happily the yew tree still survives and throws out from its old and gnarled trunk a young and vigorous shoot, to attest for many an age to the site of the ancient church, at the back of the Blue Bell at Pandy, or more fully and correctly Pandy Capel Aelhaiarn, on the turnpike road from Ruthin to Corwen, about half a mile from Derwen station and Bryn Saith Marchog. Close by stands a small cottage, formerly a farm, called Capel from its ancient connection with the above; and there is a tradition that one of the bells at Derwen Church was brought from hence. I was also told by my informant, aged eighty-nine, that in digging a drain across the croft in which the yew tree stands many years ago, human bones were discovered, and that the impression in her early days was that the chapelry had been subject to Llansantffraid. I may add that Thomas Davies, afterwards Bishop of St. Asaph, 1561-1573, was rector of Llanaelhaiarn some time before the reign of Queen Mary.

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<sup>1</sup> Bishop Maddox's Book, Z.

<sup>2</sup> Hengwrt MS. 397.

## LLANDDERFEL.

THE townships of this parish were until recently, Llan, Nantffreiar, Tregynlas, Selwern, Crogen, Doldrewyn, and Llaethgwm, embracing an area of 5,528 a. 3 p. 22 p. of the rateable value of £4,790 : 6 : 7 ; but of these Llaethgwm, which is entirely detached by an intervening portion of Llanfor, has been annexed to the new Church of St. Mark's Frongoch, and Nantffreiar to St. James's Llawry Bettws. The population now remaining is 895.

In the *Taxatio* of 1291 we have "Eccl'ia de Landervael taxat' £5, dec. 10s.; in the *Valor* of 1535 the gross value is returned at £14 : 3 : 4 minus £1 : 0 : 8 for lactuals, annuals, and triennials, nett £13 : 12 : 8, dec. £1 : 7 : 3½. No notice, however, is here given of the offerings to St. Derfel. Separate institution appears to have been given to portions which are here combined together ; for in 1583 we find "institutio in Eccl. de Llandderfel una cum porcionibus in Crogen, Selwern, et Doldrewyn ; and in 1593 again there was another institution to these portions and a second to the rectory.<sup>1</sup> In the township of Nantffreiar again, all the tithes belonged to the rector and vicar of Llanfor, but the Easter dues and offerings were paid to the rector of this church, where they used to communicate, marry, christen, bury, and pay their church rate.<sup>2</sup> The detached township of Llaethgwm enjoyed a modus of 4*d.* for every tenement or farm,<sup>3</sup> and there were also moduses of 14*s.* on Bodwenni bach,<sup>4</sup> and of 1*s.* 8*d.* on Garthgoch.<sup>5</sup> The tithes were commuted at £322 to the rector, who has also a house, "Bryn Derfel",<sup>6</sup> together with a glebe, inclusive of the house and the churchyard, of 14 a. 1 r. 28 p. Patron, the Bishop of Llandaff by virtue of the recent transfer from St. Asaph.

The parish, like the church, takes its name from "Derfel Gadarn", or "the mighty", a famous warrior of the sixth century, who in after life is said to have exchanged the sword for the pastoral staff. His reputation had become so great, and the pilgrimages so enormous to

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<sup>1</sup> MS. Z.

<sup>2</sup> This township was probably at one time attached to the old church near Llawr y Bettws in Llanfor parish : hence, though originally a part of this parish, it became practically a part of that one.

<sup>3</sup> Most likely in consideration of having a chapelry of its own at Eglwysan, *q. v. sub* Frongôch.

<sup>4</sup> Anciently belonged to the monks of Ystrad Marchell (Strata Marcella), near Welshpool.

<sup>5</sup> The Rural Dean's Report of 1729-30 says "Caepant"; but both these places lie together, and are close to Henblas, the barn of which is said to have been an old church or chapel.

<sup>6</sup> The field behind the Rectory is called "Bryn Saint", and used to be the great gathering-point on the annual wake. Another glebe field is called "Erw'r Ancres". The house was built in 1826, at an outlay of £950.

his shrine before the Reformation, that special mention has already been made of it to illustrate the religious customs of that period;<sup>1</sup> but the offerings and customs were so peculiar as to justify the inferences that the original hero must have been a great pastoral chieftain of those early days, when such as Cynfran, Sior, and others like himself, came to be regarded as the special patrons of the animals of the pasture and the chase, and that upon their anniversary was afterwards engrafted the festival of the Christian saint. For the offerings made to him embraced not only money but "kyne, oxen, and horses";<sup>2</sup> and the relic which is still familiarly known as his horse ("Ceffyl Derfel"<sup>3</sup>) is really the dismembered trunk of a red stag<sup>4</sup> which a former Rural Dean ordered to be decapitated in the year 1730; whilst his staff ("Ffon Derfel") exactly corresponds to a pastoral staff represented as held in the right hand of "S'e'us Trillo Abbat'," copied by Edward Lhuyd from the north window of this church about the year 1700.<sup>5</sup> There was a tradition that the image would set a forest on fire;<sup>6</sup> and the huge wooden image, as it was denominated by Bishop Burnet,<sup>7</sup> was sent up to London by Dr. Elis Price, the "Commissarie General of the diocese for the expulsinge and takynge awaye of certen abusions, supe'sticions, and ipocryses"; and in fulfilment of the prophecy, as it was said, it was publicly burnt in Smithfield in May 1538, along with Friar Forest of Greenwich, who had been condemned for high treason in denying the King's supremacy. The sermon on the occasion was preached by Bishop Latimer.<sup>8</sup> The wooden stag, however, continued to have a place in the church, near the rails of the Communion Table, until at least 1730; and annually, on Easter Tuesday, it used to be brought out, and carried in procession to the Bryn, where, fixed to a pole placed in a horizontal position, attached to another placed perpendicularly, and resting on a pivot, it afforded a ride to the juveniles of the parish, after the manner of a wooden horse at a fair.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup> P. 77 *supra*.

<sup>2</sup> It is likely that these came to be cured or blessed by him, with an offering to that end, rather than to be actually offered to him.

<sup>3</sup> This and the staff are now chained together, and kept in the church porch.

<sup>4</sup> There is a legend of a white stag connected with the foundation of Llangar Church, and possibly this may be its counterpart for Llandderfel.

<sup>5</sup> Beneath ran the legend, "Orate pro a'i'abus Hovel ap ..... qui ..... fieri fecerunt." (Peniarth MS.)

<sup>6</sup> One of the hills on the borders of the parish is called "Carw Fynydd" (the stag's mountain), and is probably the clue to the legend of the foundation and the tradition alike.

<sup>7</sup> *History of the Reformation*, bk. iii, vol. i, p. 486.

<sup>8</sup> *Suppression of the Monasteries*, p. 190 seq., Camden Soc. Publications.

<sup>9</sup> The hollow in the side, into which the horizontal pole was fixed, suggested the abuse of the old relic as a pig trough, for which it at one time



The church, which is of late Perpendicular, of the time of Henry VIII, has recently been well restored under the direction of Mr. S. Pountney Smith of Shrewsbury,<sup>1</sup> and comprises chancel and nave with western bellcot, north porch, and south vestry. Its most interesting feature is the rood screen which divides the chancel from the nave. About the end of the last century the rood loft, which was large enough to accommodate about sixty persons, was taken down and one side of it placed as a front to the gallery at the west end; but on the late restoration it was put back in its old place above the screen; portions of the other side have been employed as finials to a reredos. The ceiling of the chancel is of oak with carved bosses at the intersections; the floor paved with Maw's tiles. An American organ by Smith of Boston stands against the north wall, and there are monumental tablets to rectors Maurice, 1760; Stodard, 1788; and Davies, 1825. In the nave the low gallery which ran across the west end has been removed, the west door closed, and a new window inserted; open seats substituted for the old pews, and new rafters added to the roof, which is open with foliated principals. The pulpit is of Cefn stone with open panels, and the font is also new and of the same material, the gift of the architect.<sup>2</sup> The present vestry has been formed by the addition of a window to what was called in 1729-30 a dark lumber room; and was probably intended for a Golgotha. The old registers contain a few curious entries, *e. g.*, in 1613 we find details of a controversy respecting the glebe lands; in 1626 a copy of an application from the rector and churchwardens to the bishop for leave to erect a reading seat on the north side of the church, where "there is now a wooden image of a redd stagg as a relique of the image of Dervel Gadarn," followed by the bishop's permission; and in 1629 an entry of the burial of Mr. John Price of Faenol in the Cathedral of St. Asaph at midnight, on the 1st of June, "by the aid of twenty-four wax torches."<sup>3</sup> A particular account of the murder of one of the Lloyds of Pale is given under another year.

A sum of £60, the residue of the personal estate of John William, 1746, is invested in Bala turnpike trust, and produces £2 2s. per ann. which is distributed on St. Thomas's day annually to the poorest, oldest, and most necessitous within the parish.

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served. There was also a square space in the back for fixing in the image of Deyfel Gadarn.

<sup>1</sup> The re-opening services were held on Tuesday the 16th of August, 1870.

<sup>2</sup> The cost of the restoration amounted to £1,200, towards which sum the chief subscriptions were, £400 by the Earl of Dudley, £400 by Henry Robertson, Esq., £50 each by the Bishop, the Diocesan Church Building Society, and R. J. Ll. Price, £40 from Carey's Fund, £20 Mrs. Davies, Fronheulog, etc., etc.

<sup>3</sup> "Johannes Price, Armiger, natus apud Vaynol, sepultus fuit in ecclesia cathedrali Asaph 1<sup>o</sup> die Junii, crastino Trin. cerciter mediam noctem per tædas cereales viginti quatuor."

## RECTORS.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1537.—John ap John ap Thomas<br>ap Rice   | 1705.—HALL, Peter                        |
| 1556.—PRICE, John                         | 1720.—EDWARDS, Robert                    |
| 1558.—LLOYD, John ap David                | 1740.—JONES, Thomas, M.A. <sup>6</sup>   |
| 1573.—PRICE, John <sup>1</sup>            | 1760.—MAURICE, Peter <sup>7</sup>        |
| 1583.—VAUGHAN, Rice                       | 1760.—HUGHES, Ellis <sup>8</sup>         |
| 1592.—KENRICK, William                    | 1763.—STODARD, Samuel, B.A. <sup>9</sup> |
| 1640.—JONES, Maurice <sup>2</sup>         | 1788.—STODARD, David, M.A. <sup>10</sup> |
| 1641.—THELWALL, Andrew, A.M. <sup>3</sup> | 1796.—DAVIES, Thomas <sup>11</sup>       |
| 1663.—PIERCE, John <sup>4</sup>           | 1825.—BEANS, Edward                      |
| 1675.—PARRY, Henry <sup>5</sup>           | 1828.—JONES, John, A.M. <sup>12</sup>    |
|   | 1840.—JONES, John.                       |

1868.—MORGAN, William ; Deac., 1850 ; Pr., 1852 ; C. St. Mary's, Cardiff ; P. C. Ystrad y Fodwg, dioc. Llandaff, 1858.

## LLANDRILLO.

THE townships<sup>13</sup> of this parish are, Pennant, Dinan, Mardref, Llan, Garthiaen, Cilan, and Sirior,<sup>14</sup> having a total area of 28,200 acres, of which 27,910 are titheable, and 6,481 rateable, and valued at £43,777, with a population of 776.

The *Taxatio* gives "Eccl'ia de Landerillo taxat' £12 ; dec., £1 4s." ; and the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* returns the rectory at £17 : 15 : 8 gross ;

<sup>1</sup> Deprived.

<sup>2</sup> Vic. Chor., 1626.

<sup>3</sup> Deprived by parliamentary sequestrators. S. R. Caerwys, 1663.

<sup>4</sup> Vic. Chor., 1637 ; S. R. Caerwys, 1661.

<sup>5</sup> Preb. Llanfair, 1696 ; R. Ysgeifiog, 1702 ; V. Guilsfield, 1704.

<sup>6</sup> R. Trefriw, dioc. Bangor.

<sup>7</sup> Collated March 10, died August 8. V. Chirk, 1743.

<sup>8</sup> V. Llanfor, 1748.

<sup>9</sup> Vic. Chor., 1746.

<sup>10</sup> V. Llangernyw, 1787.

<sup>11</sup> R. Llangar, 1789.

<sup>12</sup> Vic. Chor., 1816 ; V. Rhuddlan, 1819. Editor of a new edition of *British Antiquities Revived*, by Robert Vaughan of Hengwrt, Esq., with a brief memoir of the author. Bala, 1834.

<sup>13</sup> In an inquest held at Kynoyt, and exhibited at the Sessions in Hardelech, 13 Richard II (*i. e.*, 1391), into the manor of Hendor and the rightful heir of David de Hendor, we meet with the following vills : Vayrdref ucha, Dinan, Branes, Tyos, Gwynodl, Garthiaen, Pennant and Penmaen, Ffridd-oedd Talhoper and Gwrenyniog, Pentrevelin, etc. The measures of corn and oats are the *gogyr* and *hobbet*, "mensurâ de Llandrillo". (*Llyfr Côch*, p. 171 seq.)

<sup>14</sup> E. Lhuyd gives eleven, including Branas, Tyfos, and Moel y Skediw ; and dividing Mardref and Branas each into the subdivisions of Ucha and Isa.

repris' 39s. 4d., nett £15:16:4, dec. £1:11:4 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; and the vicarage likewise £8:16:8, repris' 19s. 8d., nett £7 17s., dec. 10s. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. The Commutation returns assigned £343:6:8 to the sinecure rector, £171:13:4 to the vicar, and £18 to the vicars choral of St. Asaph and the vicar of Gwyddelwern. This last sum arose from the township of Tyfos, which was probably at one time a part of Gwyddelwern parish.

On the death of Mr. Thurlow in 1847 the sinecure rectory lapsed to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who in 1851 transferred to the vicarage £26 per annum thereout, together with the rectorial glebe; and in 1859 further augmented it by raising the vicarial tithe rent-charge to £329 per annum. They have also given £1,500 towards the glebe house erected in 1872, and five acres of adjacent land have also been presented by the Rev. John Wynne, making the glebe in all about fifteen acres. Patron, the bishop.

The church, St. Trillo, June 15th,<sup>1</sup> is long and narrow, with a tower at the west end, and a porch on the north and vestry on the south sides. It was rebuilt in 1776, and reseated in 1852. On this last occasion "the mooding of the chancel," described in 1749,<sup>2</sup> as "of very ancient standing," was removed, and the upper portion of the rood loft taken down and placed on the front of the west gallery, the lower portion still remaining *in situ*, to mark the ancient division of the chancel and nave. Above the vine pattern runs another band of carved work representing dragons, lions, interlacings, roses, etc. The chancel steps were also removed and a wainscot with Jacobean panels formed along the east wall. The pulpit and desk are also new. The clock in the tower was the gift in 1772 of Edward Jones of Cevenwern, who as a child had been supported by the parish; the two bells bear the several dates of 1755 and 1771 with the respective wardens. An heraldic monument in the church commemorates David Lloyd de Hendwr 1707, and another Gwin Lloyd of the same place 1774, and there are a few other tablets; an arched tomb in the churchyard, with an heraldic slab on the south wall of the church is memorial to the Hon. Catherine Wynne of Branas, daughter of Thomas, Viscount Bulkeley and relict of Richard Wynne of Garthgynan. "Along the inside of the churchyard wall are stone benches in very regular order for the parishioners to sit upon before prayers."<sup>3</sup>

A very pretty little national school with class-room attached has just been built at a cost of £400,<sup>4</sup> the dressings are of Cefn stone and

<sup>1</sup> So Edward Lhuyd, who also adds that Ffynnon Drillo was about a quarter of a mile from the church. B. Willis gives the wake June 26.

<sup>2</sup> Rural Dean's Report. "Two stone benches", then in the chancel, have been removed.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. These still exist.

<sup>4</sup> Exclusive of carriage, given *gratis* by the farmers. Chief contributors: Rev. J. Wynne (late Vicar), Miss Wilson, the present Vicar, a sum of money deposited in bank, etc.



over the porch is the appropriate motto, "Gair Duw, goreu dysg." It is endowed with the interest of one-third of £350 bequeathed in 1811 by Vicar Anwyl.<sup>1</sup>

Edward Lhuyd notices the following Krwys (Crosses) in the parish 1. Bwlch Kroes Iorwerth, 2. Bwlch Kroes Ryffyth; and Y Ty'n y Groes yn ymyl y Lhan; and further mentions "Bedh y Santes' ar lan Kadwst, lhe kladhwyd Santes (uxorem intelligit) Trillo."

A curious custom is also recorded by him, as observed here on Easter Sunday until the death of the skilful old fiddler, with whom passed away the special tunes of the occasion—"Davydd Rowland hen grythwr a arvere bop sul y Pask brydnhawn vynd evo ievenktyd y plwy i ben kraig Dhinan i ranny yr ych gwyn. Yno y kane fo gaink yr ychen bannog a'r holl hen geinkie yr rhai'n a vyant varw gidag ev."<sup>2</sup>

A sum of £300 bequeathed by Mr. Hugh Jones of Ddol, of which a fourth part was for the benefit of this parish, and invested by the Charity Commissioners in a farm in Llangwm, yields as its share to the poor of this parish £3 : 5 : 10 per annum.

In 1729 a sum of 6s. per annum, the bequest of Mrs. Lloyd of Cilan was distributed among those poor who on Good Friday attended the Holy Communion.

## SINECURE RECTORS.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1537.—POOL, Randolph <sup>3</sup>      | 1634.—GRIFFITH, Ithel <sup>7</sup>        |
| 1538.—COLLYS, Edward                   | 1665.—CLUTTERBUCK, T., D.D. <sup>8</sup>  |
| EDWARDS, Humphrey                      | 1702.—CARTER, Benjamin <sup>9</sup>       |
| 1557.—AP HOEL, Henry <sup>4</sup>      | 173 .—TANNER, Bp. in Comm.                |
| 1582.—HUGHES, Bp. in Comm.             | 1736.—UPTON, John                         |
| 1589.—EDWARDS, Hugh                    | 1760.—DRUMMOND, Bp. in Com. <sup>10</sup> |
| 1592.—PRYCE, J.                        | 1761.—BERTIE, Charles                     |
| 1599.—KENRICK, William <sup>5</sup>    | 1789.—THURLOW, Edward S. <sup>11</sup>    |
| 1600.—BANKS, Thomas, A.M. <sup>6</sup> |   |

## VICARS.

- |                        |                                   |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1537.—GRIFFITH, John   | 1558.—REYNOLD, John               |
| 1554.—GOCH, John David | 1573.—VAUGHAN, John <sup>12</sup> |

<sup>1</sup> See under Bettws yn Rhos, p. 357.

<sup>2</sup> Peniarth MS. A "Tai Crythor" still exists.

<sup>3</sup> R. Hawarden and Neston; Preb. Hereford.

<sup>4</sup> "Absens (Oxonix studens)." Bishop Davies' Return, 1560.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llandderfel, 1592.

<sup>6</sup> Dean of St. Asaph (p. 242).

<sup>7</sup> R. Cwm, 1608; Canon, 1604; R. Bodfari, 1633.

<sup>8</sup> R. and V. South Stoneham, and Archdeacon of Winchester, 1684.

<sup>9</sup> Chaplain to the Duke of Devonshire. Had a living in Nottinghamshire.

<sup>10</sup> In exchange for Llansannan S. R.

<sup>11</sup> S. R. Hope; also R. Haughton-le-Spring, and V. Stamfordham, dioc. Durham; and Preb. Norwich. Nephew of Lord Chancellor Thurlow.

<sup>12</sup> R. Llanfihangel G. M.; Canon, 1583.

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1583.—AP HARRY, J.                     | 1660.—HUGHES, Humphrey               |
| 1594.—JONES, Thomas, B.D. <sup>1</sup> | 1666.—JONES, Humphrey                |
| 1595.—VAUGHAN, Owen <sup>2</sup>       | 1704.—PARRY, Henry <sup>3</sup>      |
| 1598.—BRERETON, Peter                  | 1709.—FOULKES, Hugh, A.B.            |
| 1604.—HEAD, J.                         | 1731.—WYNNE, Evan, A.M. <sup>6</sup> |
| 1611.—ROBERTS, Theodore <sup>3</sup>   | 1731.—MYTTON, Samuel                 |
| 1635.—LEWIS, Richard <sup>4</sup>      | 1776.—ANWYL, Robert <sup>7</sup>     |
| [1645.—PEARKS, Richard                 | 1799.—LLOYD, John                    |
| 1653.—EVANS, Evan]                     | 1826.—WYNNE, John, M.A. <sup>8</sup> |

1871.—WILLIAMS, Thomas ; St. David's, Lampeter, Deac., 1858 ; Pr., 1859 ; Curate of Gwalchmai, 1858 ; Holyhead, 1859 ; Llanrwst, 1860 ; V. Nantglyn, 1868.

### LLANFOR.

THIS large parish, extending from the borders of Yspytty to Llanwddyn, a distance of about twenty miles north to south, and from Corwen to Bala, about ten miles east to west, comprises the townships of Llan, Penmaen, Nant Lleidiog, Llawr y Bettws, Rhiwedog uwch afon, Rhiwedog is afon, Ucheldre, Garth, and Ciltalgarth, embracing an area of 20,030 acres of the rateable value of £9,559 and a population of 1,486. For ecclesiastical purposes, however, this has been greatly modified by the formation of the new parishes of Llandrindod, Frongoch, and Llawr y Bettws, whereby only the townships of Llan, Penmaen, and Nant Lleidiog have been left to the mother church with a population of 597.

In the *Taxatio* of 1291 we have Rectoria £12, dec. £1 4s. Porcio Joh'is Penlllyn £4 : 6 : 8, dec. 8s. 8d, vicaria £2 : 13 : 4, non dec. ; but in the Valor of 1535 we have only the rectory returned at £13 : 13 : 4 gross, £11 : 4 : 11 nett, dec. £1 : 2 : 6, and the vicarage, £6 2s. gross, £5 : 1 : 4 nett ; 10s. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. dec., from whence it would appear that the portion of John Penlllyn had been added to the vicarage, and not as was more usually the case to the rectory. There was, however, at least one chapelry to the mother church at this time in the parish, viz., near the present site of Llawr y Bettws,<sup>9</sup> and the district attached to it appears

<sup>1</sup> V. Tremeirchion, c. 1550 ; R. Llangynyw, 1574.

<sup>2</sup> Chaplain to Bishop Morgan. R. Llangwm, 1598.      <sup>3</sup> V. Llanfor, 1624.

<sup>4</sup> V. Llanarmon yn Ial, 1627.

<sup>5</sup> R. Bettws G. Goch, 1702 ; V. Llanfor, 1709.

<sup>6</sup> V. Cerrig y Drudion ; V. Hope, 1737.

<sup>7</sup> R. Nannerch, 1799 ; V. Bettws yn Rhos, 1811.

<sup>8</sup> Of Tyddyn Llan. Resigned, without pension, 1871.

<sup>9</sup> "By Kappel gynt mewn man a Elwir Erw'r Kappel. Y trefydd degwm ydynt Bettws y Koed, lle'r oedh y Kappel ychod, Trenantfreiar a Thre Nantlleidiog."—E. Lhuyd in Hengwrt MS.

to have included the townships of Llawr y Bettws, part of Nant Lleidiog (detached by Llandderfel intervening), and Nantffreiar. This last township belongs properly to the parish of Llandderfel; but for all ecclesiastical purposes it has been attached, probably since the decay of the chapel at Bettws, to Llanfor, and all the tithes are paid to the clergy of this parish, but the Easter dues and offerings to the rector of Llandderfel, in testimony doubtless of their early connection. Also in Llaithgwm, another outlying township of Llandderfel, from which parish it is separated by Llanfor, there is said to have been before the reformation a church, called Eglwysan.<sup>1</sup> Again in Cwm Tirymynach, *Coed y Mynach*, *Hafod yr Esgob* in this parish; in the *Monachi de Mochraedr*, on the borders of Llanycil; and in *Kappele* in the adjoining portion of Cerrig y drudion, we have indications of a former religious foundation or cell in connection with the Abbey of Ystrad Marchell, near Welshpool; and this is further corroborated by the circumstance that "Cwm Main",<sup>2</sup> adjoining Tirymynach, enjoys a modus or prescription of 10s. for all tithe of corn and hay upon its 350 acres, whilst another modus of the same amount and for the same tithes in the Rhiwlas Demesne covered three hundred acres.<sup>3</sup> The tithe apportionment in 1847 gives the commuted value of the tithes of the parish, inclusive also of those of Nantffreiar as £224 to the vicar, £304 to the sinecure rector, and £144 (being the rectorial tithes of Rhiwedog and Nant Lleidiog transferred for that purpose by the sinecure rector) to the incumbent of Holy Trinity Church at Rhosygwalia, otherwise Llandrindod. Since the lapse of the sinecure tithes in 1854 the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have assigned £118:11:9 to the endowment of Llawry Bettws, and £96 to that of St. Mark's Fron goch, besides augmenting to £298:15:4 the vicarage, which in 1866 was constituted a rectory. The house was built in 1813, improved in 1830, and has attached to it 3½ acres of glebe. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The parish church is supposed to have been founded by Mor ap Ceneu, a saint of the fifth century, who was also the reputed founder of Llannor in Carnarvonshire, to which church this is said to bear a strong resemblance; but its festival or wake follows that of another

<sup>1</sup> Could this have been *Llangaenia*, contributory to the support of Oswestry Hospital, A.D. 1210-15? *Vide supra*, p. 554, n., and *infra*, p. 708, n.

<sup>2</sup> In 1183 Elisse ap Madoc granted to the monks of Strata Marcella the land called *Llecheudin*, the boundaries of which were Aber Cummen, Kairrunhok, Rhydolwen, Nant Ucheldre, Manachduner, Alarch, and Geyro; to which were added, by purchase from Madoc Hethgam, other lands included within the following bounds,—*Llynhesgin Kalet dimer* (Afon Heskyn), *Bretfos* (Brotos), Puttl (qu. Bwlch), Tarwerign (Treweryn), Kelyn, Ekelchet (Y Gylchedd), and Geyro. A part of Keman (Cwm Main) was added by Owen ap Madoc. (*Mont. Coll.*, 1871, p. 312; 1872, p. 109. *Arch. Camb.*, 1873, p. 365.)

<sup>3</sup> All the tenements in the parish paid a modus of 4d. for tithe hay, except Bryn-llusg, which was the hay-ground for many other places.



early British saint, Deiniol,<sup>1</sup> the founder also of Llanuwchllyn, Harwarden, Worthenbury, and Bangor in Carnarvonshire and falls on September 11th.<sup>2</sup> The fabric is of considerable antiquity, but in a poor and dilapidated condition; its plan consists of chancel and nave undistinguished externally, but divided internally by the remains of an ancient screen, the lower part of which rests *in situ*, whilst a portion of its ornamental work has been used up into the ends of the parish chest. North of the chancel stands the Rhiwlas chapel, which now serves as a vestry, and at the west end of the nave a low but massive tower roofed and stepped; a Norman arch formerly opened into it from the nave, but it has been closed up and a gallery thrown across. The main entrance lies through the porch at the south west, another door on the south side having been closed up. The windows are rude and modern. In the splay of the westernmost window in the north wall is a fragment of an early Romano-British inscription, which reads, CAVO SENI'ARGLL.

Above the north door of the Rhiwlas Chapel, now closed up, are two slabs bearing inscriptions, the first recording its erection with the name and date of the founder, K. 1599. P. KPAR. HOC FECIT.<sup>3</sup>

The other, the date of its repair, with an appropriate legend, "Esgyned gweddi, Disgyned gras...Adgyweiriwyd A.D. 1755 <sup>P.</sup>W.E." Within this chapel are tablets to Rowland Owen of Frongoch 1717, and to his son, Rowland Owen, clerk, 1767. In the chancel are mural monuments with armorial shields to "Sarah, Viscountess Bulkeley", who is stated with much candour to have "at last, wearied with the cares of this life, applied her thoughts to the pursuit and contemplation of a better!" ob. 1715, to her son Thomas Bulkeley, 1713; her son-in-law Roger Price of Rhiwlas 1719, and her daughter Hon. Catherine Atkinson, 1765. There are also incised slabs to Richard John Price ob. 1842, etat 38, and Frances Charlotte 1844, etat 2. In the nave are monuments to "Robertus Price 1748, etat

<sup>1</sup> The holy well adjoins the church, "Ffynnon Dhanniel wrth glawdh y Vynwent." There was also a "Ffynnon Varred tan Foel Ymmoel." (E. Lluyd.)

<sup>2</sup> It is, I think, a matter of some doubt whether the second half of the name represents *Môr*, the saint,—seeing that both here and at Llanynys, another of his reputed foundations, he has been superseded by another founder, and that a British one,—or *mor*, the sea, in allusion to Llyn Teged or Bala Lake, which it skirts,—just as at Llanynys also we seem to have a little physical mythology introduced,—or *mawr*, great, *i. e.*, the Llanfawr, either in allusion to its large extent, or to its special importance as in earliest times the seat of Llywarch Hen, whose stone is still pointed out in the churchyard, and whose "Pabell" was said to have stood adjoining the church: "Siarl o gerrig gwedy i dodi ar i pennau ag yn awr yn gadlas." E. Lluyd.

<sup>3</sup> "Kadwaladr Prys ap Robert" of Rhiwlas was son of Sir Robert ap Rhys, the chaplain and crossbearer to Cardinal Wolsey, and brother to the notorious Dr. Elis Price, "Y doctor Goch o Blas Iolyn".

26 with the prayer "Cujus animæ propitiatur Deus"; William Price 1774, etat 84, Hon. Elizabeth his second wife, 1778 etat 74, and one to Anna Sophia Susanna Isles, "the last lineal descendant of the house of (Lloyd of) Rhiwaedog," 1832.

In addition to the district churches already mentioned at Llandrinod, Llawr y Bettws, and Frongoch, there is also at "Sarnau" a small school church erected in 1863, wherein a school is held on week days and divine service performed on Sundays, the curate's stipend being provided by the Diocesan Church Extension Society, £30; Mrs. Price of Clomendy, £40, and another subscriber £10.

In 1729 "a charity school for twenty boys was supported here by a company of tradesmen in London, whom Mr. Price of Vaynol joined." How long this continued does not appear. The national school, erected in 1836, has been closed.

The charities comprise the following benefactions:—

1. Mrs. Margaret Price of Rhiwlas, c. 1740, £100 for clothing twelve poor people.

2. Mr. William Price, nephew, 1774, £200 ditto, £100 for bread, and £800 for poor of Penmaen T.

The above sums plus £300 by the same benefactors to the poor of Llany Cil, in all £1,500, were left in trust, and under the management of the owner of Rhiwlas, and the interest thereof (£800 at 4 per cent. and £700 at 5 per cent.), amounted in 1836 to £67 per annum.<sup>1</sup>

3. Mr. Hugh Jones of Ddol gave a moiety conjointly with Llangwm of a fourth part of £300,<sup>2</sup> invested in a tenement in Llangwm parish.

Lost.—1. £20 by Jane Jones of Ddol, 1736. 2. £20 by Ellen Williams, 1786. 3. £37 by Rector Gibson. (These sums were employed for parochial purposes and interest formerly allowed out of the church rates). 4. £10 by Hon. Lumley Bulkeley.

Lost for Rhiwaedog township.—1. Annual sum of 20s. by some member of the Aberllefeni family, not paid since that property passed into the possession of the Cyffronydd family. 2. A sum of £3 by a member of Rhiwaedog before 1742. In 1736 there was land producing £6 to the poor, it has not been paid since 1786. Also in Llandderfel parish was a small tenement of 22 acres, called Cae Tlodion, which formerly formed part of the Rhiwaedog estate, and was supposed to have belonged to the poor, perhaps it was the land on which the above benefaction was charged.

#### SINECURE RECTORS.

1537.—Hugh ap Rice

1581.—HOLLAND, John, A.M.<sup>4</sup>

1557.—Hugh ap Robert<sup>3</sup>

1588.—HUGHES, Bp. in Comm.

<sup>1</sup> The present owner denies his liability, and the charity is well nigh lost.

<sup>2</sup> The other fourths to Corwen, Llandrillo, and Llany Cil. This share is £1:12:11.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanuwchllyn, 1553; R. Bettws Gwervyl Goch, 1566; V. Nantglyn, 1570.

<sup>4</sup> R. Llanwyddelan, 1581 V. Guilsfield, 1586; Canon, 1599.

- 1601.—GRIFFITH, Edmd., B.D.<sup>1</sup> 1713.—FOULKES, H., D.D.<sup>7</sup>  
 1606.—WILLIAMS, A., A.M.<sup>2</sup> 1737.—MADDOX, Bp. in Comm.  
 1621.—DAVIES, John, D.D.<sup>3</sup> 1743.—HORSELEY, John  
 1644.—LANGFORD, Wm., M.A.<sup>4</sup> 1746.—GIBSON, Edmund, M.A.<sup>8</sup>  
 1668.—ELLIS, John, A.M.<sup>5</sup> 1771.—SHIPLEY, Bp. in Comm.  
 1697.—BARKER, Ralph, D.D.<sup>6</sup> 1774.—WORTHINGTON, W., D.D.<sup>9</sup>  
 1708.—TODD, John 1778.—POYNTZ, Charles, D.D.<sup>10</sup>  
 FLEETWOOD, Bp. in Comm. 1809.—CLEAVER, Wm., M.A.<sup>11</sup>

## VICARS.

- 1537.—GRIFFITH, I. 1683.—JONES, Robert<sup>15</sup>  
 1550.—GWYN AP GRIFFITH, Sir R.<sup>12</sup> 1709.—PARRY, Henry<sup>16</sup>  
 1561.—DAVIES, Hugh<sup>13</sup> 1723.—LLOYD, Griffith, A.M.  
 1569.—OWEN, Edmund 1724.—JONES, Robert<sup>17</sup>  
 1619.—GRIFFITH, Robert 1735.—LLOYD, J.  
 1624.—ROBERTS, Theodore<sup>14</sup> 1748.—HUGHES, Ellis<sup>18</sup>  
 1660.—JONES, Rhys 1760.—ROBERTS, John  
 1665.—PRICE, Rice 1780.—DAVIES, David  
 LLOYD, Bp. in Comm. 1795.—ROBERTS, John

<sup>1</sup> Of Cefn Ymwlch in Lleyln, and of Jesus and Brasenose Colleges, Oxford. R. Llandwrog, 1599; Canon of Bangor, 1600; R. Llanbedrog, 1604; Dean of Bangor, 1613; Bishop of Bangor, 1634.

<sup>2</sup> R. Llanengan, dioc. Bangor, 1600; Precentor of Bangor, 1612.

<sup>3</sup> The learned grammarian and lexicographer. Preb. Llannefydd, 1617 (p. 248).

<sup>4</sup> Master of Ruthin School, 1626; V. Welshpool, 1632; R. Llanerfyl, 1637; Canon, 1639. When deprived of his other preferments by the parliamentary sequestrators, he was permitted to retain this living, probably through the influence of Mr. E. Meyricke of Ucheldre.

<sup>5</sup> Chaplain of New College, Oxford, 1661; Precentor of St. David's, 1678.

<sup>6</sup> Chaplain to Archbishop Tillotson, whose works he published in three volumes, and by whom he was appointed to this sinecure. Chancellor of Wells Cathedral, 1695.

<sup>7</sup> R. St. George, 1702; Preb. Llanfair, 1705; R. Marchwiall, 1709.

<sup>8</sup> Son of the Bishop of London. He gave £25 for the purchase of Bibles for this parish.

<sup>9</sup> V. Llanyblodwel, 1729; S. R. Darowen, 1737; V. Llanrhaiadr yn Moch-nant, 1745; S. R. Hope, 1751; chaplain to Bishop Drummond, and Preb. of St. Asaph and of York.

<sup>10</sup> S. R. Cilcain, 1775; Deputy Clerk of the Closet to George III; Preb. Durham, and R. North Creek, dioc. Norwich.

<sup>11</sup> Preb. Faenol and S. R. Corwen; R. Newtown, 1811; R. Denbigh, 1814. Son of Bishop Cleaver.

<sup>12</sup> R. Newtown, 1537; S. R. Darowen, 1545.

<sup>13</sup> V. Llanrhaiadr yn Kinmeirch.

<sup>14</sup> V. Llandrillo, 1611.

<sup>15</sup> V. Nannerch, 1682.

<sup>16</sup> R. Ysgeifog, 1702; V. Llandrillo, 1704; R. Llandyssil, 1719.

<sup>17</sup> R. Llanycil, 1735.

<sup>18</sup> R. Llandderfel, 1760.



1803.—JONES, Jenkin Lloyd<sup>1</sup>

1819.—LLOYD, Humphrey

1812.—HOWARD, R., M.A.<sup>2</sup>1843.—GRIFFITH, Thomas, M.A.<sup>3</sup>

1816.—MORGAN, Richard

1858.—MORGAN, Thomas, B.D., St. David's, Lampeter, Greek and Hebrew Prizeman; Deac., 1851; Pr., 1852; formerly Curate of Llanycil; Rural Dean.

## ST. MARK'S, FRONGOCH.

THIS district was consolidated by an order in council, dated 12th of April, 1859, and comprises the townships of Ucheldre, Garn, and Ciltalgarth out of the parish of Llanfor, Llaithgwm from Llandderfel and Uwehmynydd from Llanycil. The population attached to it from these three parishes respectively is 386, 68, and 73, giving a total of 527. The endowment is £96 9s. per annum arising from the tithes of Garn and Ucheldre townships and an annual payment of £28 19s. by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The vicar has also a house and 1 a. 1 r. 4 p. of glebe. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The church, St. Mark's, is a neat little building in the early English style, comprising chancel and nave, vestry and porch with western bell gable, and was erected from the designs of Mr. Mainwaring Penson of Chester. The foundation stone was laid June 10th, 1857, and the church was consecrated on the 19th of August, 1858. The seats accommodate 162, and are all free. The communion plate was presented by Mrs. Price of Rhiwlas, and the total outlay was about £1,300.

In Llaithgwm, a detached township of Llandderfel, there appears to have once existed an ancient chapelry called "Eglwysan," "Eglwysann",<sup>4</sup> or as Edward Lhuyd writes it "Eglwysarn"; and this is corroborated by the circumstance that every farm and tenement within the township paid a modus of only 4d. to the rector of the mother church. It has been supposed that some of the old principals may now be seen in the barn of Berthlafar farm.

## VICARS.

1858.—EVANS, David, P. C. Pontbleiddyn, 1859; R. Llanycil, 1867.

1859.—ROBERTS, William, R. Llangower, 1871.

1871.—OWEN, Philip, St. Bees; Deacon, 1865; Pr. 1866; Curate of Cerrigydrudion, 1865; Rhuddlan, 1868.

<sup>1</sup> R. Llanwrin, 1812; R. Penegoes, 1827.<sup>2</sup> V. Dwygyfylch, 1811; V. Bettws yn Rhos, 1816; R. Denbigh, 1818, and V. Llanrhaiadr D. C., 1843; Hon. Canon of Bangor.<sup>3</sup> V. Cwm, 1858.<sup>4</sup> Buarth and Cae Eglwys Ann are named in the Tithe Apportionment.

## LLAWR-Y-BETTWS.

THIS district, consolidated by an order in council, 1 Nov. 1864, comprises the townships of Llawr-y-Bettws in Llanfor, Nantffreiar in Llandderfel and Persaethydd in Gwyddelwern, and has a population of 504. It was endowed in 1865 by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners with the lapsed tithes of the rectory of Llanfor, arising out of Llawr-y-Bettws and Nantffreiar, and amounting to £118:11:9, but has no house or glebe, and is in the patronage of the bishop of the diocese.

The ancient name of this township was Bettws-y-Coed, and it appears from Edward Lhuyd, who wrote about the year 1700, that there was formerly a chapel within it, on a spot then called "Erw'r Capel",<sup>1</sup> and that to it were attached the townships he enumerates in the same connection, viz., Bettws y Koed, which is entirely, and Nantlleidiog, which is partly cut off from Llanfor by a portion of Llandderfel, and Nantffreiar cut off from Llandderfel by a portion of Llanfor.<sup>2</sup> The old site is still pointed out on the side of a hill called "Bryn",<sup>3</sup> and it was at one time debated whether the new church should not be built upon the same spot, but on the grounds of population and accessibility it was given up. The roof of the old church is said to form at present the roof of the barn in Llawry Bettws Ucha farm.

The church, dedicated in the name of St. James the Greater, was erected as a memorial to Sir Robert and Lady William Vaughan of Rhug,<sup>4</sup> who themselves had expressed an intention of giving a site and contributing £500 towards the erection; but were both of them cut off before it was begun, and the work was then taken up by their friends and relatives, and a sum of £2,328 collected.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "By Kappel gynt mewn man a elwir Erw'r Kappel.....Y trefydd degwm Bettws-y-Koed (Lhe'r oedh y Kappel ychod) Trenantffreiar, Trenant Lheidiog."—MS. Notes in Ray's Synopsis.

<sup>2</sup> Equivalent, probably, to "Cwm Cysgadwy, Hengae'r Nantlleidiog, and Nantffreiar," wrongly given by Cathral in his *History of Wales* as the townships of Llandderfel.

<sup>3</sup> Query Bwlch Gwrnwdog? "By Kapel meddanthwy ym mwllch y Gwrnwdog."—E. Lhuyd.

<sup>4</sup> Inscription on a brass tablet beneath the east window: "Adeiladwyd yr Eglwys hon er coffadwriaeth am Robert William Vaughan o Rug a Nannau, Barwnig a Frances Margaret ei wraig gan eu cyfeillion a'u perthynasau.....I Dduw bo gogoniant."

<sup>5</sup> Chiefly through the Rev. W. Richardson. The principal subscriptions were, £100 each from Bishop Short, John Vaughan of Nannau, Miss Harriet Lloyd of Hengwrt, and Miss Jane Lloyd of ditto; £50 from John Lloyd of Rhagatt, Mrs. R. Price of Rhiwlas, R. W. Price of ditto, and John Lloyd of Plas isa; £30 from Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P.; and £25 each from Col. Maddocks and Mr. J. H. Ainsworth.

The foundation stone was laid on Tuesday, August 27th, 1861,<sup>1</sup> and it was consecrated on Tuesday, March 22nd, 1864. It is built from the plans of Mr. G. Gilbert Scott, and comprises chancel and nave, divided internally by a chancel, arch and steps, and marked externally by a double belfry, south vestry and north porch. The style is that of the early part of the thirteenth century, slightly French in general design, but English in all the accessories and details. The chancel window of three lights is filled with stained glass by O'Connor of London to illustrate respectively "The Crucifixion," with the legend "Ti a'n prynaist ni, O Dduw, trwy dy waed"; "The Magdalen," "Hyn a alodd hon hi a wnaeth"; and "the Raising of Dorcas," "Lawn o weithredoedd da acelusenu," beneath it the brass tablet commemorative of the circumstances of the erection of the church. A rich reredos of tiles, by Minton, consists of alternate roses and fleurs-de-lis, with an inlaid cross of blue enamel; the tiles of the sacristy are of alternate monograms and cross and crown, with the Evangelistic emblems and the Agnus Dei. The steps of the chancel and sacristy are faced with texts in Welsh. A piscina and sedilia are formed in the south wall, and on the north side stands the credence. The windows of the nave are of two lights with plate tracery, except at the west end, which has two lancets surmounted by a rose. The pulpit is of wood, but stands on a stone base, and there are a lectern and a desk. The font, of Caen stone, is octagonal in form and has a band of waterlilies round the rim, and on its panels the text in old English characters "I. H. S. Est Nom qu'd est sup' omn' nom." A brass upon the base states it to be memorial to Lady Williames-Vaughan from her brothers and sisters.<sup>2</sup>

A pretty schoolroom with classroom and master's house attached was erected, chiefly through the exertions of Mrs. Lloyd of Rhagatt, and opened on the 25th July, 1867.<sup>3</sup>

#### INCUMBENTS.

1864.—DAVIES, Richard, S. Bees; V. Glyndyfrdwy, 1871.

1871.—JONES, James, S. Thomas à Becket Divinity School, Oxford; Deac., 1865; Pr., 1866.

#### LLANDRINDOD, RHOSYGWALIA.

THE district assigned to this church by an order in council August 5th, 1856, comprises the townships of Rhiwaedog ucha and Rhiwaedog isa out of the parish of Llanfor, with a population of 313.

<sup>1</sup> By Mrs. Price of Rhiwlas, and the Misses Jane and Harriet Lloyd, sisters of Lady W. Vaughan.

<sup>2</sup> "Er gogoniant Duw a choffadwriaeth am Frances Margaret Williames-Vaughan merch Edw. Lloyd, Yswain o Rhagatt a phriod Sir Robert W. Vaughan.....bu farw Medi 16, 1858."

<sup>3</sup> The cost was about £800.



Previously to that order, the township of Nantlleidiog had also been attached to it, and the endowment had been £144 per annum out of the rectorial tithes of the three townships, relinquished for that purpose by the sinecure rector Mr. Cleaver. But by the said order the township of Nantlleidiog was detached, and the whole of the tithes, rectorial and vicarial, of Rhiwaedog ucha and Rhiwaedog isa, amounting to £158 5s., assigned for the endowment. The church, parsonage house, called "Glan Hirnant," and the school, were all erected at the sole expense of Mr. Cleaver, in whose heirs the patronage is vested.

The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and consecrated in 1836, is a plain building, built to accommodate 360.

#### INCUMBENTS.

1839.—WILLIAMS, John, M.A., Ab Ithel, P. C. Nerquis, 1843 (p. 455).

1843.—WILLIAMS, John, B.A., St. Mary Hall, Oxford; Deac., 1839; Pr., 1840.

#### LLANGAR.<sup>1</sup>

THE parish proper consists of the township of Llangar, Cymmer, and Gwnodl,<sup>2</sup> the last of which was cut off from the rest by an intervening portion of Gwyddelwern, until in 1854 the townships of Cynwyd Fawr, Cynwyd Fechan, and Bodheulog with an additional area of 1,432 a. 1 r. 35 p. were transferred from that parish to this one. The total area amounts to 5,092 acres, and the population to about 711.

In the *Taxatio*, "Ecclia de Langar tax" £4, non decimat; and in the *Valor*, "Rectoria de Llangar valet clare £5:7:8, dec. rogi 10s. 9½d." The Commutation returns assign £200 to the rector,<sup>3</sup> £17 10s. to the sinecure rector of Corwen, and £17 10s. to the vicar of that parish: but both these latter sums were added to the rectory by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1865, on the death of Mr. Cleaver. The rector has also a house and five acres of glebe. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The old parish church, All Saints, Nov. 1,<sup>4</sup> is small and unmarked, internally or externally, by any division of chancel or nave; a portion of the west end is boarded off for a vestry. The porch stands on

<sup>1</sup> Sometimes written "Llangarw-gwyn" (the church of the white stag); and the legend is that "a white stag was started in the thicket where the church of Llangar now is, and that wherever he ran that became the boundary of the parish." A somewhat similar story is told of the foundation of Selattyn Church; and in the neighbouring parish of Llandderfel we have evidently traces of another legend to the same purport.

<sup>2</sup> Half the tithes of hay and corn in this township belonged to Corwen.

<sup>3</sup> A modus of twelve shillings for hay was enjoyed by Plas isa.

<sup>4</sup> "The first Sunday after All Saints, or first Sunday in winter," according to E. Lluyd, who also mentions "Ffynnon Fynws lle by dhent gynt yn off-rwm pinneu Keimyon, os bydhe defaid hyd y dwylo i gael ymadael a hwynt."

the south side, and let into the wall near it, after the manner of a stoup, is a font ; a north door has been closed up. The east window is of three lights perpendicular, and the only monument of note is one to a family formerly resident at Gwerclas. An early manuscript notices "three little pigeon-holes<sup>1</sup> on the south side of the chancel, which was itself large and marked off from the nave, not by the cancelli, but by some posts, which had probably supported the screen ; a gallery stood at the west end. The chalice had been stolen about three years before, but the thief had been captured and it had been recovered.<sup>2</sup> This church is only used now for burials, having been superseded as the parish church by the new one of

#### ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST AT CYNWYD.

This is built in the Early English style from the designs of Mr. Rhode Hawkins of London, and comprises a chancel with vestry on the north side, and a nave with south porch and western bell gable.<sup>3</sup> The foundation stone was laid by Lady Vaughan of Rhug, and it was consecrated August 5, 1856. It has been much decorated internally at the expense of Miss Jones of Tynllwyn, and has its east window filled with stained glass by Capromino of Bruxelles, to represent the Crucifixion.

The national school, built in 1864, has a master's house attached, and cost £552 : 17 : 7.

The charities consist of—

1. Mrs. Lumley Salesbury of Rhug, 1750, the clothing of two old women.<sup>4</sup>

2. Mr. Hugh Roberts of Caergoed in Llanfor, 1806, gave £200, the interest thereof for the teaching of poor children in Llangar and that portion of Gwyddelwern which has lately been added to it ; annual income £6.

Lost—Richard Prichard, 1720, left £20.

#### RECTORS.

1537.—Rice ap Howel Dormer	1642.—OWENS, Robert <sup>6</sup>
1540.—John ap Rice	1661.—GRIFFITH, J.
1546.—Griffith ap Llewelyn	1662.—Vaughan, Edward, A.M. <sup>7</sup>
1586.—Owen ap John	1664.—ELLIS, Evan
1592.—PRICE, Thomas <sup>5</sup>	1668.—JONES, Hugh
1614.—DAVIES, Robert	1689.—LLOYD, J. <sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> No doubt a piscina. The triple form was very rare.

<sup>2</sup> Rural Dean's Report, 1729-30.

<sup>3</sup> Sir R. W. and Lady Vaughan gave the site and £500 ; Incorporated Church Building Society, £147.

<sup>4</sup> See Corwen.

<sup>5</sup> R. Newtown, 1583.

<sup>6</sup> V. Caerwys, 1624.

<sup>7</sup> R. Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog, 1662 ; R. Mallwyd, 1664.

<sup>8</sup> V. Hope, 1680 ; V. Gwyddelwern, 1691.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1691.—JONES, Edward                     | 1796.—WILLIAMS, Robert <sup>4</sup>      |
| 1720.—SAMUEL, Edward, B.A. <sup>1</sup> | 1826.—WILLIAMS, P. L.; M.A. <sup>5</sup> |
| 1748.—SAMUEL, Edward, B.A. <sup>2</sup> | 1836.—GRIFFITHS, Frederick               |
| 1762.—EVANS, William, B.A.              | 1838.—DAWSON, John                       |
| 1784.—PARRY, Edward <sup>3</sup>        | 1858.—WILLIAMS, Watkin <sup>6</sup>      |
| 1789.—DAVIES, Thomas                    |  |

1872.—JONES, Thomas Jeffrey, B.A., London; Deac., 1861; Pr., 1862; Curate of Rhosllanerchrugog, 1861; P. C. Minera, 1863.

### LLANGOWER.

THE two townships of Uwchafon and Isafon or Dwygraig constitute this parish, which has an area of 3,715 a. 3 r. 27 p. of the rateable value of £2,088, with a population of 300.

The *Taxatio* gives "Ecclia de Langewoyr tax. £6, dec. 12s., and the *Valor* of 250 years later returns it as of the same gross value or £5 5s. nett, dec. 10s. 6d. The Commuted value is £162 6s., and the rector has also a house built in 1821, and about 32 acres of glebe.<sup>7</sup> Patron, the bishop.

The church takes its name from St. Cywair or Gwawr, the mother of Llywarch Hen, thus closely connecting it with the neighbouring parish of Llanfor, where he for some time resided; festival, July 11th, "pythefnos ar ol dydd gwyl Pedeir." There is a stone in the parish still called "Llech Gower", and within a quarter of a mile of the church "Ffynnon Gower," "Lhe byddent yn golchi plant rhag y Lhechin."<sup>8</sup> The old church was described in 1729 as small and very dilapidated, consisting of nave and chancel continuous; the latter equal to nearly one half of the church being moored and wainscotted, with a small ruinous gallery at the west end." It was rebuilt between 1778 and 1782, and restored in 1871, having been reopened for divine service on November 1st of that year. The cost was about £450.

This is one of the last places where the horse litter or bier, so common a hundred years ago, when the roads were almost impassable in

<sup>1</sup> Oriel College, Oxon. R. Bettws, 1711. Published a new edition, in 1712, of Charles Edwards' *Hanes y Ffydd*; translated into Welsh Grotius' *Gwirionedd y Grefydd Gristnogol*, 1716; *The Whole Duty of Man* (Holl Ddyledswyd dyn), 1718; Bishop Beveridge's *Chief Duties of a Christian* (Prif Ddyledswyddau Christion), 1722-23; and in 1731, *Athrawiaeth yr Eglwys*, containing Dr. Peter Nourse's *Devout Treatises*, and Archbishop Wake's *Family Prayers*.

<sup>2</sup> Son of the preceding. R. Llangynog, 1747.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanferras, 1789. Father of John Humphreys Parry, author of the *Cambrian Plutarch*, etc., and of Thomas Parry, Bishop of Barbadoes, 1842-70.

<sup>4</sup> R. Llandegla, 1789.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llansannan, 1836.

<sup>6</sup> R. Nannerch, 1872.

<sup>7</sup> A grant of £200 was made by Queen Anne's Bounty in 1792.

<sup>8</sup> "Where they used to wash the children to cure the rickets."



the mountain districts, continued in use ; and one of the few places where one may still be seen.<sup>1</sup> They were in construction similar to the common shoulder biers of the present day, but without feet and with longer arms, which served as shafts to the fore and after horse, the bier with the coffin swinging between them.

There are no parochial charities, though the oldest register contains memoranda of two of twelve shillings each per annum, said to be left respectively by Howel Morgan, n. d. and Robert Owen of Llanfawr, 1647 ; but they never appear to have been received, owing probably to the civil disturbances that followed.

## RECTORS.

1318.—RHIRID LLWYD <sup>2</sup>	1685.—REYNOLDS, Valentine
1537.—LEWIS, J.	1688.—*JONES, William <sup>7</sup>
1556.—AP ROBERT, David	1701.—*JONES, William, B.A.
1582.—CYNWAL, Rhys <sup>3</sup>	1752.—*GRIFFITHS, George, B.A.
1591.—DAVIES, Ffoulk <sup>4</sup>	1772.—*ANWYL, Rice <sup>8</sup>
1626.—HUMPHREYS, Richard	1782.—*JONES, Evan
1628.—EDWARDS, Thomas <sup>5</sup>	1816.—*JONES, Hugh
1645.—LLOYD, Edward <sup>6</sup>	1861.—EVANS, James

1871.—ROBERTS, William, St. David's Lampeter ; Deacon, 1849 ; Pr. 1850 ; Curate of Holywell ; P. C., St. Mark's, Frongoch, 1859.

LLANSANTFFRAID GLYN DYFRDWY.<sup>9</sup>

UNTIL the year 1863, this parish consisted of only one township, with an area of 593 a. 3 r. 18 p. of the rateable value of £550 4s. ; but in that year the townships of Bodorlas, Hendreforfydd, and Rhagatt were transferred to it from Corwen ; the population inclusive is 426.

According to the *Taxatio*, "Ecclesia de Lansanfreyd tax. £2, non dec.;" a sum which only increased by eightpence in the two centuries and a half to the *Valor* of Henry VIII. The next three centuries, however, have witnessed a considerable advance, the tithes being commuted at £86, to which an additional £105 1s. per annum have been transferred from the rectorial tithes of Corwen. Two farms also purchased with Queen Anne's Bounty,<sup>5</sup> viz. "Nantgau," in Llandysilio, 36 acres, rented at £30 per annum, and "Bryn Bras" in this

<sup>1</sup> There is another at Llangelynin near Towyn.

<sup>2</sup> "Collacio 2 porc'o'um de Llangoweir a'o predicto Rerit Llwd."—*Llyfr C6ch*.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llangwm, 1591.      <sup>4</sup> V. Llangwm, 1585.      <sup>5</sup> R. Llanycil, 1644.

<sup>6</sup> Deprived by the parliamentary sequestrators. V. Llangwm, 1664. He was the father of William Lloyd, Bishop of Norwich, one of the Non-jurors.

<sup>7</sup> V. Gwyddelwern, 1689.      <sup>8</sup> R. Llanycil, 1782.      \* P. C. Llanuwchllyn.

<sup>9</sup> "St. Bride's in the Valley of the Dee."

<sup>10</sup> Grants of £200 each were made in 1767 and 1784.

parish, 9 acres, rented at £10 per annum, belong to the rector, and there is a glebe house, rebuilt in 1837, with 10 acres of land attached. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The church, named after St. Ffraid,<sup>1</sup> Bride or Bridget, whose festival fell on February 1, having been completely swept away by a sudden rising of the Dee in the early part of the seventeenth century,<sup>2</sup> was rebuilt on the present site at a little distance from the river. It was in form a small parallelogram, and but a poor specimen of a village church; but in 1852 it underwent a great renovation and improvement.

The large high square pews which filled the entire church even to the east wall were removed and open seats substituted, a gallery which projected over part of the north side was taken down, and the old pulpit and desk replaced by new ones of carved oak; a new belfry and a vestry were built; the stonework of the windows renewed, and the chancel window filled with stained glass by an amateur. This glass has subsequently been removed to the nave and inserted in two windows on the north side, and a double one on the south. Those on the north side represent the Nativity, Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension in medallions, and are memorial to "Charles Owen Lloyd, born 1828, died Sept. 12, 1848." That on the south has also medallions to represent Christ blessing little children and the Raising of Lazarus, and is to the memory of "Julia Anne Lloyd, born 1831, died July 24, 1841." In 1863 another south window was filled with stained glass, by Clayton and Bell, representing our Lord as comforting the weary,<sup>3</sup> in memory of "Edward Lloyd of Rhagatt, who died in 1859, and of Frances his wife." In 1867, a large gallery at the west end was taken down, and a handsome chancel added on.<sup>4</sup> This is divided from the nave by a low stone screen, arcaded and foliated, and has an arcaded reredos, inlaid with rich tiles, and with a super-altar of Caen stone, carved by Earp, showing a band of quatrefoil circles inlaid with marble. In the south wall is a double piscina and a sedile formed by deepening the window seat. The east window of three lights, decorated, is filled with glass by Clayton and Bell, and illustrates the Crucifixion and the Entombment.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> E. Lluyd mentions "Ffynnon Sanffraid", about a quarter of a mile from the church, and "Y Groes Vaen" at the same distance.

<sup>2</sup> Handed down in the local *pennill* :

"Dyfrdwy, Dyfrdwy fawr ei naid  
Aeth ag Eglwys Llansanffraid,  
Y Llyfrau bendigedig  
A'r Gwppan Arian hefyd."

<sup>3</sup> Text, "Deuwch attaf Fi bawb sydd yn flinderog ac yn Llwythog."

<sup>4</sup> The style is Decorated, from the designs of Mr. G. E. Street.

<sup>5</sup> An inscription in the south wall states that "To the glory of God, and in memory of John Lloyd of Rhagatt, who died May 22nd, 1865, this chancel was erected by his widow."

A new national school was built in 1858 on a site presented by Sir R. W. Vaughan, Bart., which has a master's residence attached. The cost was £845.

A small quillet of land 3 r. 20 p. enclosed on the neighbouring mountain, was bequeathed by a Mr. Salesbury of Rhug for the repairs of the church.

## RECTORS.

1537.—Thos. ap Howel Vaughan	1664.—MAESMORE, Jenkin
1556.—Thomas ap John	1718.—WILLIAMS, William
1560.—LABENTON, David	1720.—LANGFORD, James, A.B. <sup>3</sup>
1570.—JONES, Edward	1771.—PUGHE, Edward Vaughan <sup>4</sup>
1573.—DAVIES, Maurice	1781.—LEWIS, Owen
1587.—ELLIS, John, A.M. <sup>1</sup>	1798.—PRITCHARD, Robert, M.A. <sup>5</sup>
1642.—GRIFFITH, Robert, LL.B.	1799.—ROBERTS, Edward <sup>6</sup>
1660.—JONES, Thomas	1812.—HUGHES, John
1664.—LLOYD, Edward <sup>2</sup>	1835.—WILLIAMS, John

1862.—EVANS, David, St. Bees ; Deac., 1851 ; Pr., 1852 ; C. Meifod, 1851-62.

LLANUWCHLLYN.<sup>7</sup>

THIS extensive mountainous parish, about nine miles long by two in breadth, is divided into the townships of Cynllwyd, Penaran, Penanlliw<sup>8</sup> and Castell, comprising an entire area of about 12,000 acres, 1000 of which are arable and wood, and 4000 meadow and pasture, with 259 inhabited houses, and a population of 1171.

The *Taxatio* of 1291 gives under "Ecclia de Lanvthlyn, Rectoria £5 10s., dec. 11s. ; vicaria £3 : 6 : 8 non decimat, but the *Valor* of 1535 gives both combined under "Rectoria de Llanyllyn valet in grosso £10, clare £8 : 4 : 2, dec. 16s. 5d." After the Reformation, the advowson passed somehow or other into the hands of the Prices of Gilar, who claimed it as having been granted to their ancestor, Dr. Elis Price, on the dissolution of Cymmer Abbey ; but this was controverted by Bishop Lloyd, who maintained that it had never belonged to any monastery, but that Dr. Elis Price, who held it for about sixty years, got it put, towards the end of that time, in the famous patent of Tipper and Daw, by whom being but trustees it was assigned to

<sup>1</sup> V. Hope, 1641.

<sup>2</sup> Deprived of Llangower by parliamentary sequestrators. V. Llangwm, 1664.

<sup>3</sup> Notorious for marrying people clandestinely.

<sup>4</sup> R. Llanferras, 1780.

<sup>5</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxon. R. Llanfihangel G. M., 1800 ; R. Rotherfield Peppard.

<sup>6</sup> V. Whitford, 1811.

<sup>7</sup> "The church above the lake."

<sup>8</sup> Formerly called "Ffridd Helyg y Moch."



his son Thomas Price and his heirs. The question was tried at Shrewsbury in 1683,<sup>1</sup> from whence it was transferred by consent to the Exchequer, where a verdict was given in favour of the plaintiff, the rector in whose name the bishop had the case tried. Possession, however, was refused, and a second verdict obtained at Shrewsbury in 1684 in favour of the plaintiff. But the question being again forced on at Bala in 1688, at a time when the bishop was obliged to be in London, and in spite of his protest a verdict was given against him by default."<sup>2</sup> On this occasion Mr. Wynne was turned out of the rectory by the impropiator, and died vicar of Gwyddelwern, though it is said that he always continued to be known and addressed as the rector of Llanuwchllyn.<sup>3</sup> For some reason, either the great cost of the litigation or the promotion of the bishop to the see of Lichfield and Coventry, the case was not tried again; but it was one of the articles of complaint against his successor, Bishop Jones, that though he made the recovery thereof the common pretence for appropriating the profit of vacant livings, he never really tried the point.<sup>4</sup> From that time until the appointment of the present incumbent, the cure for the endowment of which the impropiator only left £6 per annum was held with the rectory of Llangower. About the year 1725 Mr. Edward Price, counsellor at law, a subsequent impropiator, augmented it to £20 per annum, on the condition that the curate should reside within the parish. Grants in augmentation were subsequently made of £200 each from Queen Anne's Bounty in 1795, 1808, and 1811 in which last year also a further sum of £1200 was

<sup>1</sup> Robert Wynne v. Peter Price.

<sup>2</sup> MS. G.

<sup>3</sup> An attempt appears to have been made about this time, or soon after, to change the name from Llanuwchllyn to Llanyolin, with the view of establishing a closer connection between the church and the seat of the Prices (Plas Jolyn), and giving a kind of proprietary right in case of any subsequent dispute. The terrier and the old Register were said to have been destroyed at the same time, and an old Bible of great value stolen from the church. The present Registers date from 1697. (Rural Dean's Report, 1729-30.)

<sup>4</sup> The following inscription, copied from a brass plate formerly in this church, and lately discovered during some alterations of the old house of Plas-y-n-Blaenau in Llangernyw, is interesting as bearing on this matter: "Underneath the curate reading lyeth the body of Thomas Price, Councillor at Law, lay impropiator of this parish by purchase of the same from Peter Price his father, whose the same was by vertue of a devise in the last will and testament of Thomas Price of Price, Esq., his father, deceased about the year 1633, who purchased the same from Tipper and Dawe, grantees of the same from Queen Elizabeth, whose this rectory was as part of the revenues of the monastery of Kymer, on the dissolution of that abbey. This last Thomas Price, impropiator of this parish, tythes, glebe, and appurtenances (having by his last will, dated 31<sup>o</sup> July, 1714, devised the same to his daughter Jane, married, after his death, to John Whetstone), dyed 29<sup>o</sup> Aprill, 1716<sup>o</sup>. Aged 63."

added out of the Parliamentary grant and followed by another of £200 the next year. These grants, amounting in all to £2000, have been invested, £1000 in land,<sup>1</sup> and the rest remains with the Bounty Board at three per cent. There are also £49 in tithes from those farms which did not belong to the impropriator, the rest being merged in the rents.<sup>2</sup> The old rectory house of 1682 was afterwards converted into a tithe barn, and some small pieces of glebe are now in the possession of the impropriator and patron, Sir W. Williams-Wynn, Bart.,<sup>3</sup> who provides the vicar with a house rent free.

The old church, taken down in 1872, was dedicated to St. Daniel or Deiniol, Sept. 11th, and comprised chancel and nave (divided in 1729) a south aisle of five bays, and a western gallery put up about 1745, probably when the rood-loft was taken down. Its chief feature of interest was a recumbent effigy of "John ap Gruffap Madoc ap Iorwerth" of Glanllyn, in plate armour over a mailed coat,<sup>5</sup> replaced in the new church under the window of the chancel. The east window of three lights was filled with stained glass, illustrative of the Transfiguration, to the memory of John Williams, agent of Glanllyn, by his friends in 1866. Edward Lhuyd mentions that in his time, c. 1700, there were several Roman bricks<sup>6</sup> worked into the walls of this church and those of Llanycil and Llangower; but none have now come to light.

The new church, opened for divine service 2nd September, 1873, comprises chancel and nave with their respective aisles on the south side, the vestry being at the east end. The chancel is paved with encaustic tiles and has an arched panelled ceiling; that of the nave and aisles being of open fir; the arcading, window dressings, etc., of Wrexham freestone, of which material also the new pulpit has been made. The old font has been repaired, and a new brass lectern presented.<sup>7</sup> The memorial window has been replaced, and the other windows filled with cathedral tinted glass. The plans are from the designs of Mr. E. B. Ferrey, F.S.A., the style mixed Gothic, and the cost rather more than £1,600, of which sum £400 was contributed by

<sup>1</sup> Rhydfudr and Penyffridd, two small farms of about sixty acres and twelve acres, both in Llangwm parish.

<sup>2</sup> Commuted at £94 to the impropriator, out of which the augmentation above mentioned has to be paid, and also Mr. Price's bequest of £4 per ann. to the poor. Moduses were claimed upon Glanllyn, Caergai, and Prysau, of 10s. for corn tithes.

<sup>3</sup> Sir W. Williams-Wynn acquired it by purchase from Mr. Price Jones, a lineal descendant of the Prices, who also sold the impropriation of Ysptyty to Mr. Hope.

<sup>4</sup> "Rhyd y person, clwt y person and gro y person" of the apportionment.

<sup>5</sup> "Hic jacet Johannes ap Gruff. ap Madoc ap Iorwerth. Cujus animæ propitiatur Deus. Amen. Anno D'ni mccccclxx."

<sup>6</sup> The Roman station of Caergai is within a short distance of the church.

<sup>7</sup> By William Jones (Gwrgant), London.

parishioners,<sup>1</sup> £450 by other subscribers, and the whole doubled by the patron; £80 by the Incorporated, £50 by the Diocesan C.B.S., and £40 from the Carey fund.

A national school was erected here in 1841;<sup>2</sup> but this proving inadequate, a handsome new one with master's house attached was built in 1866, at a cost of £650, by Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart. It has an endowment arising from two-thirds of £100 left by Mr. Thomas Owen of Talardd in 1820, for this parish and Llanymawddwy.

There are also two other charities for the poor:—

1. Charge of £4 per annum on the rectorial tithes by Mr. Edward Price, 1725.

2. Interest of £5 by the heir of Llwyngwern, payable out of the church rates.

*The Almshouses.*—The Rev. Maurice Vaughan, M.A., of Caergai, canon of Windsor, built almshouses for six poor old people of this parish, and endowed them with two tenements, and with the interest of £200 towards their repairs and the augmentation of their maintenance. These two tenements are—1. "*Tymawr*," a farm of 47 acres, now rented at £20. 2. *Ty'n y cae*" a farm of 29 acres, now rented at £22.

These almshouses are built about a mile and a half from the village, and are under the management of the patron, as inheritor of Caergai.

Ed. Lhuyd mentions several ecclesiastical antiquities which deserve to be recorded here, *e. g.*

1. "*Bwlch Eglwys Dydyr yn agos i Garndochon*." This was on the way from the village to Trawsfynydd and the old Roman station on Mons Heriri; not far off stands the rock called "*Clogwyn yr Eglwys*," and with it may be connected the *Modus* on *Pyrsau*.

2. "*By Kappel medha nhw gynt mewn Kae a elwir 'Kae'r Kappel' lle mai palmant pan glodhier*."

3. "*Bwlch y Kroes ym mlaen Kynlhwyd*" on the way to Llanymawddwy.<sup>3</sup>

4. "*Kareg ysgrivenny* (inscribed stone) *ymlaen Nant yr Eira*."

5. "*Kader y Dydecho a Buches y Dydecho<sup>4</sup> yn Ffridd y Glasgoed*."

6. "*Nant y mynach ar derfyn Llanfachreth*"; this probably belonged to the monks of Cymmer Abbey.

There is also at Caergai a field called "*Y fynwent*," but whether the same as No. 2 is not known. If so, it may have been such from the times of the Roman occupation, and in "*Gwaith Gwallter Me-*

<sup>1</sup> With two exceptions, the highest sum was £8, the lowest being 1s., and the number of subscribers over one hundred and fifty.

<sup>2</sup> In the beginning of the last century the school was held in the church.

<sup>3</sup> There is a farm on the road to Mawddwy called "*Rhydybod*," probably "*Abbotsford*."

<sup>4</sup> Tydecho was the founder of Llanymawddwy Church, and the patron saint of many daughter churches in the adjoining portion of Montgomeryshire.



chain,"<sup>1</sup> we are told of an inscription found here on a stone, "Hic jacet Salvianus." The modus on Caergai would well agree with such an ancient capella.

## RECTORS

1537.—PRICE, Elis, LL.D.<sup>2</sup>

1602.—LLOYD, Richard, B.D.<sup>4</sup>

1553.—AP ROBERT, Hugh<sup>3</sup>

1611.—VAUGHAN, Maurice, A.M.<sup>5</sup>

1559.—Price, Elis, LL.D.<sup>2</sup>

1675.—Price, Peter<sup>6</sup>

.—Evans, J.

1681.—WYNNE, Robert<sup>7</sup>

1788-1861.—Served by the Rectors of Llangower.

## VICARS.

1860.—DAVIES, John, St. David's, Lampeter, P. C. Festiniog, 1865.

1865.—JONES, John Samuel, B.A., Queen's College, Cambridge ; Deac., 1863 ; Pr., 1864 ; Curate of Rhuabon, 1863-5.

## LLANYCIL.

THIS is the mother church of Bala ; its townships are Strevlyn, Cyffdy, Mastron, Isymynydd, and Uwchymynydd, embracing an area of 12,868a. Or. 4p., of which, however, 6,000 were at the time of the tithe apportionment common, of the rateable value of £10,000, and including the town of Bala with a population of 1,500.

According to the *Taxatio* this was both a rectory and a vicarage, the portion of the former being £4 : 6 : 8, dec. 8s. 8d., that of the latter £1 : 13 : 4, non dec. ; but according to the *Valor* these had been united, and Rectoria de Llanyckill valet clare £8 : 12 : 3 inde pro dec. parte regi 17s. 2½d. The Commutation assigned £320 to the rector, who has also a house built in 1819 and six acres of glebe ; there were also two small cottages, which were sold in 1866, and the produce £230 invested in Queen Anne's Bounty at 3 per cent. There is also a further payment of £3 per annum from the owner of Rhiwlas for "Acre Feyno," in Cae Mawr, which was formerly at least church land. Patron, the bishop.

The church, St. Beuno, April 20th,<sup>8</sup> is very small, divided by a rude modern substitute for the ancient screen into what was once chancel and nave, with north porch and western bell gable. The

<sup>1</sup> Vol. iii, p. 344.

<sup>2</sup> S. R. Llangwm and Llandrillo yn Rhos. Commissary-General under Lord Cromwell for the "expulsinge of images and superstitions" in this diocese.

<sup>3</sup> S. R. Llanfor, 1556.

<sup>4</sup> V. Abergele, 1611 ; V. Gresford, 1613 ; R. Marchwiall, 1614 ; V. Rhuabon, 1617.

<sup>5</sup> The founder of the Almshouses.

<sup>6</sup> As impropiator.

<sup>7</sup> V. Gwyddelwern, 1713.

<sup>8</sup> "Ffynnon Veyno' yn ymil yr Eglwys."—E. Lhuyd.

oldest register, which begins with 1615, contains a copy of an order made by commissioners from the Archbishop of Canterbury at a metropolitical visitation in 1636, "That for the future no one should claim a sitting place in the church, but what was there specified, and particularly that no one of the parish should be suffered or permitted to make any common or frequent use to sit, or to have any long possession, that he might have any lawful claim in time to the seats under the window on the left or north-east side of the chancel, where the old reading seats for the minister stood, for fear lest in future times it may be thought good and convenient by after ages to remove the minister's seat to its old accustomed place." The area of the church is described a hundred years later as "filled up with bosses, cushions, rushes, and other conveniences for the meaner sort to sit and kneel upon. No part of it, not even the chancel, is paved. The reason given against paving it, was that if the body of the church were paved, the poorer people must absent themselves from it, for as they fill up the body and area, so notwithstanding their cushions, bosses, etc., prepared for the purpose, it would be impossible for them to sit or kneel during divine service without uneasiness or pain. At the west end there was a handsome gallery and pewed, and the font was strong and stately, and raised to a becoming height from the ground."<sup>1</sup> The base of this one still remains, but the present font is modern. Two old seats bear the name and date I. V. 1649 and 1657.<sup>2</sup> The old "mooding of the chancel" has been removed; but the ends of the beams show its former position; the east window contains some coloured glass put up in 1855 to the Anwyls of Plas Coch. The window itself is a perpendicular of three lights, the other windows were modernised in 1737. Among the monuments is one to Rev. Evan Lloyd, A.M., of Frondderw,<sup>3</sup> 1776, with a distich written by John Wilkes, his companion in the Fleet Prison, to which he was committed for a libel on one of his neighbours (Mr. Price of Rhiwlas); and other members of the same family; to rector Anwyl 1819; to Simon Lloyd of Plasyndre 1711, and his grandson, the Rev. Simon Lloyd, B.A., 1836, the friend and companion of Mr. Charles, who also lies within this churchyard, and whose tomb is an object of devout pilgrimage to the denomination which honours him as one of its founders.<sup>4</sup> The communion paten and chalice were given by rector Jones, in 1722, and the flagon by rector Lloyd and the parishioners in 1773. The national school here was erected in 1835.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Rural Dean's Report, 1729.

<sup>2</sup> John Vaughan of Cefn Bodig, to whom an heraldic tablet is inserted on the outside of the south wall of the church.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llanfair D. Clwyd, 1763-76. A talented English poet.

<sup>4</sup> P. 144 *supra*.

<sup>5</sup> A school, however, is mentioned as having been built near the churchyard by Rector Piers, 1615-26. (Terrier of 1631. Z.)

## CHRIST CHURCH, BALA.

EDWARD LHUYD, the eminent antiquary, 1670-1709, mentions that "opposite the cross in Bala was a place called the Old Churchyard, and that there was a tradition that there had formerly been a Chapel of Ease there."<sup>1</sup> The chapelry may very likely have been originally the cure or charge of the vicar, mentioned in the *Taxatio* of 1291, but when it ceased to exist is not known; and it was probably to its bell that the old saying about "Cloch y Bala" was due.

It was not, however, till 1810 that a new Chapel of Ease was built in the town, which was licensed for divine service in 1813, and continued to serve that purpose until the erection of Christ Church in 1855; from which time it was applied to the uses of a national school, until the opening of the new ones on May 29th, 1873.

"Christ Church," built in the style of the earlier half of the thirteenth century from the designs of Mr. B. Ferry, F.S.A., comprises chancel and sacarium, nave and two aisles, with tower and spire at the west end, north porch, and south-east vestry.<sup>2</sup> The east window is a deep triplet with detached shafts of Cefn stone, and is filled with geometrical quarries; the chancel floor is paved with handsome encaustic tiles, and on the wall is placed a tablet to the memory of Richard Pughe, rector 1860, with the inscription "This sanctuary erected and endowed by his exertions is the best earthly witness to his labours in his Master's service."<sup>3</sup> The nave of four bays is lighted by a clerestory and open seated, and awaits a proper desk and pulpit to supply the temporary ones of red deal. The font stands upon a circular base with pillars at its four angles. A sum of £1,000 was contributed towards the endowment chiefly by Mrs. Oakeley of Tanybwch £200; Bishop Short, Sir R. W. Vaughan, the rector and a friend £100 each, W. O. Richards £25, Mr. Wynne of Voelas and Mrs. Passingham £20, etc. The excellent new national schools, comprising boys' and girls' schools, with class-rooms and teacher's residence attached, have only just been completed at a cost of £1,800,<sup>4</sup> and opened with special service on May 29th, 1873.

<sup>1</sup> "Ar gyver Kroes y Bala y mae lle a elwir 'Mynwent y Kappel lle by gynt Gapel fel y dywed yr hen bobl.'"—Peniarth MSS.

<sup>2</sup> The site, together with a handsome donation, were given by Sir W. Williams Wynn, Bart.

<sup>3</sup> The other chief promoters of the work were Mrs. Price of Rhiwlas (now of Colomendy), Sir R. W. Vaughan, Bart., and Bishop Short.

<sup>4</sup> Chief subscriptions: £100 and site by R. J. Ll. Price, Esq., Rhiwlas; £70, Bishop Short; £50 each by Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., H. Robertson, Esq., of Pale, and James Walton of Dolforgan; £25 by Rector and J. Jones, Esq., Frondderw; £20 each by R. O. Anwyl and Dr. Richards; £100 by Diocesan Board of Education; £67, National Society; £50 Carey Fund; £275 10s., Privy Council grant; and £400 by bazaar.



The charities embrace—

1. Mrs. Margaret PRICE, of Rhiwlas, £100 for clothing poor people.
2. Mr. William PRICE ditto, in 1774, £100 for ditto, and £100 for bread.<sup>1</sup>
3. Mr. Hugh JONES, of Ddol,<sup>2</sup> in 1736, a fourth of £300, interest £3 : 5 : 10.
4. Mr. Evan JONES, of Tydu, left £140.
5. Mr. Morris EDWARDS, in 1822, £100.
6. Mrs. Elinor LLOYD or Williams, in 1786, £40.
7. Mr. Morris Jones, of Cyffdy, £700, only £290 paid.<sup>3</sup>

At “Bochraiadr”, as it is now called, but anciently “Mochraiadr”, a distant portion of the parish on the way to Festiniog, there formerly existed a cell or offshoot of the Abbey of Ystrad Marchell (Strata Marcella) near Welshpool. This appears to have been a part of the land of “Llecheudin,” sold by Elisse ap Madoc, first cousin of Owen Cyfeiliog, to the monks of that abbey in 1183, in consideration of three pounds. The boundaries are enumerated in the following order : Abercummein, Blaen cumein, Kairrunhok and Rhydolwen, Nantucheldre, Manachduner (hodie Mynachdwr) Alarch, Geyro ;<sup>4</sup> and are names which have almost all of them their representatives. Other lands were subsequently purchased from Madoc Hethgam closely adjoining them.<sup>5</sup> In acknowledgment of, and service for these parts, the monks were bound to provide the prince with lodging and entertainment one night each year, and to render him annually two colts “de meliori equitio suo,” of that superior breed of horses which Roger de Belesme had introduced into Montgomeryshire, and which they doubtless provided themselves with here.

#### THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

THE Rev. Edmund Meyricke, M.A., of Ucheldre, treasurer of St. David's, and Precentor of Christ's College, Brecon, and formerly Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford, in which he founded six scholarships and six exhibitions, bequeathed by a codicil to his will, dated May 14th, 1712, a tenement called Tytan y Domen for a school-house, and an acre of land in the park, and about three acres called Cae'r Llechwedd for the schoolmaster. He also added a further sum of £15 per annum for the master, and a similar sum for the clothing of thirty poor boys of North Wales, to be educated there in grammar learning ; and

<sup>1</sup> See further under Llanfor. These have been for some years withheld, the present owner of Rhiwlas having refused to acknowledge his liability.

<sup>2</sup> See further under Corwen.

<sup>3</sup> Two subsequent legacies are stated to have been left, but not paid.

<sup>4</sup> *Montgomeryshire Collections*, 1871, p. 23.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, 1871, p. 312.

<sup>6</sup> *Arch. Camb.*, 1867, p. 189 ; 1873, p. 365.

appointed the Bishops of St. Asaph and Bangor for the time being, and the heir of Ucheldre to be the visitors and trustees. The management devolved upon the principal and fellows of Jesus College, who appointed the master, paid him a stipend of £40, kept the buildings in repair, and c. 1840 built an excellent new school and master's house.

The instruction for thirty boys included English reading, writing, arithmetic, and the classics, free of expense.

In 1866 a scheme was issued by the Master of the Rolls, appointing the Bishops of St. Asaph and Bangor, the principal of Jesus College, the rectors of Llanycil, Llanfor, Llandderfel, Llangower, and the owners of Ucheldre and Rhiwlas and certain other influential gentlemen of the neighbourhood trustees; but this has been again superseded by a new scheme put forth by the Endowed Schools' Commissioners, 4th June, 1872. This new scheme enlarges the subjects of general instruction, but entirely changes the constitution and management of the trust, which it proposes to commit to twelve governors, of whom three are to represent the Board of Guardians of the Union, three the School Board of Llanycil, and the other six to be co-optative.

## MASTERS.

1712.—GRIFFITHS, Evan<sup>1</sup>

ROBERTS, —

ROBERTS, —

1755.—JONES, Edward, B.A.

1832.—JONES, David<sup>2</sup>1835.—JONES, Edward<sup>3</sup>1842.—EDWARDS, David, B.A.<sup>4</sup>1845.—DAVIES, T. Z., M.A.<sup>5</sup>1849.—JONES, W. H., B.A.<sup>6</sup>1851.—LEWIS, W. H., B.A.<sup>7</sup>

1855.—JONES, James

1866.—PHILLIPS, William T.

## RECTORS OF THE PARISH.

1537.—John ap David

1561.—HUGHES, Robert<sup>8</sup>

HUGHES, Bp. in Comm.

1583.—MORYS, Elis<sup>9</sup>

1598.—MORICE, Robert

1615.—PIERS, John<sup>10</sup>

1626.—PIERS, Thomas

1640.—MAURICE, Andrew, A.M.<sup>11</sup>1641.—MORGAN, I., A.M.<sup>12</sup>1644.—EDWARDS, Thomas<sup>13</sup>[1657.—MYERS, Edward, M.A.<sup>14</sup>1658.—JONES, John, A.B.<sup>15</sup>]<sup>1</sup> Appointed by the founder.<sup>3</sup> P. C. Bistre, 1842.<sup>5</sup> R. Llanddulas, 1858; V. Whitford, 1865.<sup>7</sup> C. Denbigh, 1855; V. Bodelwyddan, 1865.<sup>8</sup> Canon, 1560, and Proctor for the Chapter in the Convocation of 1562.<sup>9</sup> Canon, 1592. <sup>10</sup> R. Llangynog, 1576; V. Llanfair Caereinion, 1583.<sup>11</sup> Dean of St. Asaph, 1634; V. Corwen and comportionary R. Llansannan, 1641.<sup>12</sup> V. Nannerch, 1617. <sup>13</sup> R. Llangower, 1628. <sup>14</sup> Instituted May, 1657.<sup>15</sup> "Was, by the greate seale of England and the seale of approbation, upon the resignation of the said E. Myers, admitted rector 29 May, 1658, he being then vicar of Llanarmon in Yale."—Register.<sup>2</sup> R. Llanarmon, D. C., 1848.<sup>4</sup> C. Llanrwst, 1845.<sup>6</sup> R. Llandow, 1852.

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| 1686.—Mostyn, John, A.M. <sup>1</sup>    | 1780.—MOSTYN, Thomas, A.M. <sup>6</sup>  |
| 1688.—SAVAGE, Athelstan, A.M.            | 1782.—ANWYL, Rice <sup>7</sup>           |
| 1705.—HUMPHREYS, Edward                  | 1819.—PHILLIPS, Robert <sup>8</sup>      |
| 1725.—POWELL, Peter, A.M. <sup>2</sup>   | 1826.—LLOYD, John <sup>9</sup>           |
| 1735.—JONES, Robert <sup>3</sup>         | 1841.—PRICE, Peter, M.A. <sup>10</sup>   |
| 1753.—LLOYD, David, B.A. <sup>4</sup>    | 1852.—PUGHE, Richard, B.A. <sup>11</sup> |
| 1760.—LLOYD, Griffith, B.A. <sup>5</sup> | 1860.—THOMAS, D. M., M.A. <sup>12</sup>  |

1866.—EVANS, David, St. Bees ; Deac., 1856 ; Pr., 1858 ; Curate of Nantglyn, 1856 ; Llanrhaidr yn Mochnant, 1857 ; P. C. St. Mark's, Frongoch, 1858 ; P. C. Pontbleiddyn, 1859.

<sup>1</sup> R. Castle Caereinion and Preb. Meifod, 1688.

<sup>2</sup> R. D. Penllyn ; Canon, 1731 ; V. Llanrhaidr yn Mochnant, 1735.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llanfor, 1724-35.

<sup>4</sup> R. Gwytherin, 1738 ; Canon, 1748 ; V. Llanyblodwel, 1753 ; R. Cerrig y drudion, 1760.

<sup>5</sup> R. Caerwys, 1750.      <sup>6</sup> Canon, 1773 ; R. Christleton and Preb. Chester.

<sup>7</sup> R. Llangower, 1778.

<sup>8</sup> V. Bettws yn Rhos, 1826.      Compiler of *Casgliad o Salmau a Hymnau*.

<sup>9</sup> R. Cerrig y drudion, 1841.

<sup>10</sup> R. Erbistock, 1852.

<sup>11</sup> P. C. Mostyn, 1844.

<sup>12</sup> R. Llanellian, 1867.



## THE DEANERY OF POOL AND CAEREINION.

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THE *Taxatio* of A.D. 1291 gives these parishes under the several earlier deaneries, which appear combined under this title in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of Henry VIII, A.D. 1535, and to which there has recently been added the parish of Buttington, from the deanery of Pontesbury in the diocese of Hereford. For convenience, but not legally, the deanery is now subdivided into those of Pool and Llanfyllin.

<i>Deaneries in A.D. 1291.</i>	<i>Parishes in 1873, the new ones in brackets.</i>
Pool . . . .	...Guilsfield (Pool Quay), Llandrinio (Penrhos), Llandysilio, and Welsh-Pool.
Caereinion . .	...Castle, Llangynyw, Llanfair, Llanerfyl, and Llangadfan.
Mechain . . .	...Meifod (Bwlchycibau and Pont Robert), Llanfechain, Llansantffraid, Llanfyllin, and Llanfihangel (Dolanog and Llwydiarth).
Mochnant . . .	...Llangynog, Hirnant, Llanwddyn, and Pennant (Penybont).
Mawddwy and Cyfeiliog...	Garthbeibio.
Pontesbury in dioc. Hereford...	Buttington.

Of these deaneries, Mochnant, Mawddwy, and Mechain, (except Meifod and its district churches) with the parishes of Llanerfyl and Llangadfan in Caereinion, constitute the conventional deanery of Llanfyllin.

### BUTTINGTON.

THIS parish, originally a district chapelry of Welshpool, from which it was separated in 1759, comprises the townships of Hope, Cletterwood, and Trewern, and embraces an area of 5,349 acres, of the rateable value of £5,534, with a population of 850.

The early history of this parish, especially in its relation to the great controversy of the thirteenth century, concerning the civil and

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<sup>1</sup> In Welsh "Talybont," i. e., "bridge end." The place is famous for a great slaughter of the Danes, under their leader Hesten, by one of the generals of King Alfred, in the year 894.

ecclesiastical rights and jurisdiction of the district of Gorddwr, of which it formed a part, serves to illustrate very clearly the influence of the Lords Marchers upon our earlier ecclesiastical polity. Thus in 1265, we find an agreement entered into between the rector of the mother church of Meifod, and the Prior of the newly founded order of the Grandimontanes at Alberbury, concerning the tithes and dues of certain outlying villis extending as far as Bausley, and Winnington;<sup>1</sup> and in 1281, we learn that there was a dispute between Griffin ap Wenwynwyn, Lord of Powis, and Thomas Corbet of Caus, concerning the limits of the said district, the former claiming it as his right of ancient inheritance, the latter as lying within his Walcheria.<sup>2</sup> And corresponding with this civil dispute we have Bishop Anian of St. Asaph's claim of jurisdiction over the ancient district of Powys, and Bishop Cantelupe's appeal to the Pope against him; then follows the death of Cantelupe and the accession of Bishop Swinfield, and the decision of a jury in favour of Hereford, but under a protest from Bishop Anian against the decision being construed into a precedent to the prejudice of his see. Thereupon Bishop Swinfield enters on horseback into the middle of the river at Rhydwymman, and formally takes possession of all places and villis lying on the Hereford side of the river; and finally on the 27th November, 1288, the principal chaplain of Hawise Lady of la Pole, "for himself and the other chaplains celebrating at Botynton swore canonical obedience to the Bishop of Hereford."<sup>3</sup> The next year we have an award of Bishop Swinfield as ordinary, dated July 26, concerning the tithes of fourteen villis lying within that district and including with others those mentioned in the previous agreement of 1265, viz., Balislee (Bausley) Braginton, (Bragginton) Berlee (?) Bromrochpol, Bromrochpol Secunda (Bulthey, *i. e.* Bylchau the Pass) Wonyntone (Winnington) Wichfield, Perendon (Breiddyn?), Haregrene (Hargrave) Trifnant, Tref-Bereved (Middletown) Hochelpreve (Ucheldre) Kregion and Orleton (Olpeton Uppington). And, again, on the 6th of the following month we find him arbitrating between Philip de Ovreby, rector of Worthen, John, rector of Pole, and Griffin, vicar thereof, concerning the tithes of "four other villis in the country of Gordwr, viz., Botinton, Hope, Leghton, and Wlstanes Mynde."<sup>4</sup> This award we may conclude to have been final, and whilst it vindicated the jurisdiction to the see of Hereford, it conceded the ancient ecclesiastical title of Pole to be the mother church, to the rector and vicar of which the tithes have ever since belonged. By the recent territorial transfer, however, the living has been given over to the see of St. Asaph, in the jurisdiction of which it now remains. The Commutation returns give the tithes of

	Ch. Ch., Oxford.	Vic. Pool.
Cletterwood and Hope as . . .	£154 0 0	£53 10 0
Trewern . . . . .	155 10 0	53 0 0

<sup>1</sup> See under Meifod.

<sup>2</sup> *Montgomeryshire Collections*, 1868, p. 26.

<sup>3</sup> Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*, vols. viii and xii, and *suprà*, p. 44.

<sup>4</sup> *Mont. Coll.*, 1872, p. 123.

The income of the vicar arises from the following sources, viz., Queen Anne's Bounty, £36 ; annual grant from Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford, £65 ; interest from Ecclesiastical Commissioners on £500, given in augmentation by Christ Church in 1864, and annuity of £33 ; house and glebe, £40. It is in the patronage of the Vicar of Welshpool.

The church, All Saints, is small, and consists of a single body, the old division into chancel and nave being still indicated by the cross-beam ; the body of the church is occupied by pews, which were renewed in 1839 ;<sup>1</sup> the porch stands on the south side, and at the west end a gallery and wooden steeple. The font is very curious, and may have been originally the capital of an early English pillar, or still more likely a pedestalled piscina as at St. Mary's, Hawarden.<sup>2</sup> The roof is of open timber and decorated character, and in the perpendicular east window are fragments of the Crucifixion and the Evangelistic emblems, and also a shield of the arms of Sutton, Baron Dudley.

At "Trewern" a chapel was erected in 1837<sup>3</sup> and licensed for divine service by the Bishop of Hereford. In 1864 permission was given by the Bishop of St. Asaph to administer Holy Communion in it, and in 1867 a week-day school with a teacher's house was also erected and opened, giving accommodation for ninety children.<sup>4</sup>

The National School in the village was erected in 1838 and accommodates 54 children.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES AND VICARS.

1755.—DAVIES, William	1816.—GOLDSBRO', Thomas
1773.—PRYCE, John, M.A. <sup>5</sup>	1828.—WILLIAMS, Charles
1783.—BROMLEY, Francis	1834.—DAWKINS, Richard, M.A. <sup>6</sup>
1800.—DAVIES, William	1850.—LEWIS, D. Phillips, M.A. <sup>7</sup>

1863.—LEWIS, John, M.A., St. John's College, Cambridge ; Deac., 1852 ; Pr., 1853 ; C. Albrighton, 1852 ; Chaplain to Salop Infirmary 1853-63 ; C. St. Alkmund's, Shrewsbury, 1856-63.

#### CASTLE CAEREINION.<sup>8</sup>

THIS parish comprises nine townships, viz., Castle and Cwmgoran, Sylvaen, Nantfforch, Hydan and Dol, Hydan ucha, Moydog, Gaer, Trefnant and Trehelyg, the latter being detached from the rest and lying in the valley of the Severn. The total area is 6,540 a. 0 r. 36 p.,

<sup>1</sup> Cost £320.

<sup>2</sup> It is supposed to have been brought hither from the neighbouring ruins of Ystrad Marchell.

<sup>3</sup> Cost £64.

<sup>4</sup> Cost £235 10s.

<sup>5</sup> P. C. Tregynon, 1787 ; V. Bettws, 1817.

<sup>6</sup> V. Bettws, 1850 ; V. West Zoyland, 1854.

<sup>7</sup> V. Guilsfield, 1863.

<sup>8</sup> The Castle from which the name is taken was built in 1155, and was taken and burnt by Owen Cyfeiliog in 1165.



and the rateable value £6,254 5s., the inhabited houses, 133, and the population 709.

According to the *Taxatio* "Ecclia de Castell taxat' £6:13:4, dec. 13s. 4d.," and in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* it is returned at £14, repris £1:2:8, clare £12:17:9, dec. £1:5:9. The Commuted value of the tithes is £640,<sup>1</sup> and the rector has also a house built in 1850 at a cost of £1,600 and 17 acres of glebe land. The patronage, by virtue of the recent transfer, is now vested in the Lord Chancellor.

The church, dedicated according to Bishop Tanner in the name of St. Jerome, but according to Browne Willis in that of Garmon, with one of whose festivals the wake coincides, Oct. 1, has lately been rebuilt, having been re-opened May 28th, 1866. The last church had been partially rebuilt in 1812-13, when one of the gables, south wall, and roof were renewed.<sup>2</sup> The present structure comprises nave, chancel, and sacrarium with a western tower, capped by a spire 105 feet high.<sup>3</sup> The chancel window of three lights, early English, has painted glass of the Crucifixion with the two Marys on either side.

The Decalogue, on enamelled Aberllefenni slate, was the gift of Captain Pryce, of Cyffronydd, and the chancel ceiling has lately been enriched with colour, a small organ chamber has also been added on the north side, the vestry standing on the south. The double window on the south of the nave, filled with stained glass of a diaper pattern, was originally put up by the parishioners in memory of Lewis Rowlands, for many years curate of this church and rector of Gwytherin.

A small Methodist chapel at "Cwm goleu," vulgo Cwm Baw, was bought a few years ago, and has now been rearranged for church services and Sunday-school at a cost of £62.

The old school was erected in 1810 with the proceeds of timber from the charity land left by Mrs. Hannah Lloyd; the present one was built in 1852 at a cost of £272:17:4, and it has an endowment arising from (1) the interest of £400, left by Mr. David Thomas, of Nantfforch, in 1797, invested in a mortgage, and (2) a moiety<sup>4</sup> of the rent, £25, of Glyn Farm, 40 acres, purchased with £300 the bequest of Mrs. Hannah Lloyd in 1692.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> There was a modus of one-thirtieth on Cae Gwyn, in Lord Powis' demesnes, and one of four-pence per acre on all pasture land.

<sup>2</sup> The cost of this was £660, of which £380 were raised by rate.

<sup>3</sup> The original contract for the church and tower, to first stringcourse, was £1,430, and it was raised to the second stringcourse for £90 more. The present contract for the spire now building is £442, towards which the Earl of Powis gives one fourth; the Rector, £100; Capt. Pryce, £50; a Friend and J. H. Puleston, Esq., £25 each.

<sup>4</sup> The remaining moiety is divided between Berriew and Forden.

<sup>5</sup> "Hanna Lloyd vidua et relicta Jo. Lloyd de Glanhafon Arm': necnon filia Edmundi Lloyd de Trefnant Arm': obiit Salopiæ et sepulta fuit in hac ecclesia quinto die Januarii 1692."—Register, beginning 1689.

Other charities are :—

1. Interest of £123 arising from sale of timber.
2. Rentcharge on Golfa by Thomas Langford, Esq., 1719.
3. Interest of £100 left by Thomas and John Jones.
4. Interest of £10 by Francis Evans.
5. Interest of £100 by Richard Thomas of Nantforch, 1791.

#### RECTORS.

1537.—LEWIS, Thomas	[1655.—JONES, Thomas, A.M. <sup>5</sup> ]
1571.—JONES, Griffith	1661.—WYNNE, Rice
1574.—HUGHES, Bp. in com.	1678.—CLOPTON, Thomas, A.M. <sup>6</sup>
1601.—JONES, Thomas, A.M. <sup>1</sup>	1688.—MOSTYN, John, A.M. <sup>7</sup>
1616.—PARRY, Henry <sup>2</sup>	1725.—MOSTYN, Roger, A.M. <sup>8</sup>
1616.—PULESTON, Ed., A.M. <sup>3</sup>	1761.—NEWCOME, Henry, A.M. <sup>9</sup>
1643.—WYNNE, Rice <sup>4</sup>	1804.—HORSELEY, H., A.M. <sup>10</sup>
1645.—1655 Vacant	1847.—DAVIES, David <sup>11</sup>

1872.—WILLIAMS, David, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Deac., 1835; Pr., 1836; Curate of Llansantffraid, Glan Conway, 1835-7; P. C. Gwernaffield, 1838-40; C. Mold, 1840-5; R. Nannerch, 1845-72; Hon. Canon, 1858; Proctor in Convocation for the Clergy; Translator for S. P. C. K., of *Llyfr Natur; Sism; Y Boreu Gwanwyn*, etc., and compiler of *Cennadaethau Eglwysig* for S. P. G.

<sup>1</sup> V. Meifod, 1597.

<sup>2</sup> R. Llysfaen, 1603-12; V. Llanrhaiadr yn Mochnant, 1612-16.

<sup>3</sup> S. R. Hope, 1616-43; R. Manafon, 1622; Preb. Meliden, 1635.

<sup>4</sup> Deprived by Parl. Sequestrators, but lived to be restored in 1661.

<sup>5</sup> Made a Fellow of University College, Oxford, by the Parliamentary Visitors, 1648; R. Llandyrnog, dioc. Bangor, c. 1656. *Suprà*, p. 414.

<sup>6</sup> For interesting information relative to Clopton's appointment, see p. 119; and for his other preferments, see Prebend of Meifod, p. 256.

<sup>7</sup> R. Christleton, dioc. Chester. Exchanged with Clopton. Preb. Meifod, 1688; R. Llangynyw and S. R. Whitford, 1690. He gave the Communion plate.

<sup>8</sup> Son of preceding. S. R. Whitford, 1722.

<sup>9</sup> Nephew of Bishop Newcome. On the 13th March, 1764, he was appointed rector of Llanymynech; and the 23rd of the same month transferred to the vicarage of Gresford, where he resided. On the 4th May, same year, his elder brother, Peter, was made Prebendary of Llanfair. The following year, Sept. 4, Dr. Benjamin Newcome was made Sinecure Rector of Cilcain; and the next year the Prebendary was also made Sinecure Rector of Darowen.

<sup>10</sup> Son of Bishop Horseley. V. Gresford, 1803-47; Preb. Llanfair, 1803; and V. Chirk, 1803-4. Resided in Edinburgh!

<sup>11</sup> R. Llanarmon D. C., 1843-7.

GARTHBEIBIO.<sup>1</sup>

THIS parish, which was originally but an outlying chapelry of Llanymawdddy, consisted of only the one township of Garthbeibio, with an area of 7,200 acres until the year 1863, when by an Order in Council, gazetted in May, the two townships of Moelfeliarth and Maesllymysten were added to it from the parish of Llangadfan, thereby increasing the area to 12,500 acres, and raising the population from 332 to 596.

In the *Taxatio*, A.D. 1291, it appears in its original character, thus under "Decanatus de Manowe and Kefeyllank Ecclia de Lanemadwe cu capellis suis de Malewyt et Garthbeybyan taxat, Rectoria, £10, dec. £1; Vicaria £2, non decimat;" but in the interval between this and the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, A.D. 1535, it was made into a separate benefice<sup>2</sup> and transferred to the deanery of Pool and Caereinion, under which we have it returned as a rectory worth in gross £6:8:2, deductions 6s. 8d., net value £6:1:6, upon which the tenths to the king were 12s. 2d. The items contributing to this income are interesting, not only as illustrating the character of the country, for whilst the tithes of corn and hay are only valued at 8s., and those for cows and small tithes together at 19s. 6d., those for lambs and wool were 23s. 4d.; but also as indicating by the high rate of the offerings, £3:17:4; that there must have been something special to call forth such liberality. Possibly the rector's house formed a kind of hospice for travellers along this wild district, across the dreary pass of Bwlch y Fedwen in Merionethshire. The tithes of Garthbeibio itself have been commuted at £119,<sup>3</sup> to which those of Moelfeliarth commuted at £82:4:2 were added by an Order in Council, gazetted September 12th, 1865. In 1780 a grant of £200 was made by Queen Anne's Bounty in augmentation of the income, and this was invested in the purchase of two small tenements in Llanerfyl, which were sold c. 1857 for £547 15s., and the money invested in Three per Cent. Consolidated Bank Annuities. A further grant of £200 was made by Queen Anne's Bounty in 1865, in consideration of the transfer of the tithes

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<sup>1</sup> "The promontory or headland of Peibiau", a mythic personage, concerning whom a pretty physical legend is given in the Iolo MSS. and in the *Mabinogion*. See *Montgomeryshire Collections*, 1873, p. 2, where a very complete account of the parish is given by the Rev. Griffith Edwards, M.A., rector of Llangadfan; still earlier, Jones' *Plwyf Garthbeibio a'i Hynafiaethau*; and earliest of all, the *Cambrian Register* for 1796.

<sup>2</sup> A touching local legend connects this event with the lonely cairns called "Carneddau y Gwragedd," which it states to have been raised over three women who were overtaken on that spot by a snowstorm when on their way to be "churched" at Llanymawddwy.

<sup>3</sup> In 1719 there were only eight farmhouses in the parish, and the tithes were £19. There is a tithe rent-charge of £3 for the parish clerk.



from Llangadfan. The interest of these two last sums, £22:8:6, raises the income to £223:12:8. The rectory house was built in 1854 at a cost of £600, and there are  $9\frac{1}{2}$  acres of glebe. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The church, originally founded by Tydecho,<sup>1</sup> Lord of Mawddwy in the time of Maelgwn Gwynedd, and by Tegfedd his sister, the joint founders also of the mother church and of Mallwyd, was rebuilt in 1862; it is a small and plain edifice with a south porch, western bell gable, and north vestry. The date upon the old bell 1662, recast in 1862, coincides with the repairs which we may conclude to have taken place after Vavasour Powell had been in these parts. The communion plate was presented by Vicars Lloyd and Henry Williams.

The National School was erected in 1854.

The consolidated charities, amounting to £61, are laid out on the second district of Montgomeryshire Turnpike Roads.

#### RECTORS.

1537.—GOCH, John	1675.—WILLIAMS, James
1556.—AB OWEN, William	1677.—FFOULKES, J. <sup>6</sup>
1561.—AB OWEN, William	1685.—PRICHARD, Evan <sup>7</sup>
1598.—POWEL, J.	1705.—MORRICE, David
1602.—NICHOLAS, David, A.B. <sup>2</sup>	1729.—LLOYD, Evan
1614.—THOMAS, David Lloyd	1734.—JONES, John
1618.—PEARKS, Richard	1746.—WILLIAMS, Henry, M.A. <sup>8</sup>
1627.—VAUGHAN, J. <sup>3</sup>	1780.—JONES, Edward, M.A. <sup>9</sup>
1628.—DAVIES, David, A.M. <sup>4</sup>	1794.—LEWIS, David <sup>10</sup>
1635.—DAVIES, John <sup>5</sup>	1850.—JONES, Wm. Evan <sup>11</sup>
1662.—VAUGHAN, J.	

1873.—JAMES, David, Deac., 1866; Pr., 1867; Curate of Llan-dderfel, 1866-9; Corwen, 1869-73.

<sup>1</sup> "Ffynnon Tydecho," near the church, was famous for its healing properties, into which those who bathed used to drop a pin; and near it was "Fynnon Rigos," where the old and young used to meet to drink their sugar and water.

<sup>2</sup> Canon, 1601; V. Chirk, 1614-15; V. Llandyssil, 1615.

<sup>3</sup> First Curate of Penrhos, 1627.

<sup>4</sup> V. Darowen, 1635.

<sup>5</sup> He was deprived of this, and imprisoned by the Parliamentary Sequestrators, without being permitted to make his defence; but after the Restoration he was made V. Darowen, 1661.

<sup>6</sup> R. Llangadfan, 1685.

<sup>7</sup> R. Llangadfan, 1705.

<sup>8</sup> Of Llwyn Mali.

<sup>9</sup> Jesus College, Oxford. V. Berriew, 1794.

<sup>10</sup> V. Abernant with Cynvil in Elvet, dioc. St. David's, 1786.

<sup>11</sup> P. C. Bagillt, 1846; R. Bylchau, 1873.

GUILDSFIELD.<sup>1</sup>

FROM the townships of this parish there have been assigned to the ecclesiastical district of Penrhos, in 1844, a considerable portion of Burgedin; to Pool Quay, in 1863, the township of Rhydesgyn, the chief part of Tirymyneich, and a small part of Varchoel; and to Welshpool in 1868 the township of Gungrog fechan; leaving still to the parish church those of Llan, the greater part of Varchoel, Trelydan, Garth, Trawscoed, Hendrehen, Llanerch-rochwel, and Broniarth upper and lower, with a population of 1711; the total area of the parish being 14,462 acres, its rateable value £19,180, its inhabited houses 541, and population 2,558.

As will be seen more fully under "Meifod," this parish has formed from very early times a capella of that extensive district, and it has continued down to the present day to share its ecclesiastical fortunes. In the *Taxatio* it is given as "Ecclia de Beygidia (or Keygydia) taxat Rectoria £16:13:4, dec. £1:13:4, Vicaria £3:6:8, non decimat," and in the *Valor* the rectory is returned as worth £21, and tenths to the king £2 2s., the vicarage £11, and tenths £1 2s.

In the interval between this, A.D. 1291, and the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* Henry VIII, A.D. 1535, this rectory with its sister Capella of Pool, became annexed to Meifod as the mother church, and more than once appropriated to the "proprii usus" of Bishops of St. Asaph, viz., Spridlington in 1380, Trevor 1401, and Lowe 1439.<sup>2</sup> In 1537 the united rectories were held by Dr. Magnus, whom the king promoted to several dignities, and sent on more than one embassy. After his death or resignation the king granted these rectories to Christ Church, Oxford,<sup>3</sup> as is evident from a record in *Dugdale's Monasticon*,<sup>4</sup> and to that college they have ever since belonged.

<sup>1</sup> This name is ordinarily derived from a supposed dedication of the church to St. Giles (Egidius,—*unde* Cae-Egid-fa, *i. e.*, "field of Giles"); but there does not seem to be any sufficient authority for such a statement. It is more probably a corruption of *Gwylfa*, "the watch-place"; and perhaps *is* (below) *Fele*, the brook that runs through the village, such as "The Moat" might well have been. The Welsh name, "Kegidfa," is derived from the hemlock that abounded on the spot. Both the names "Kegitfa" and "Wylfield" occur in the agreement made in 1265 between the rectors of Meifod and Alberbury respecting their several rights (quoted under Meifod); and it is curious that the form "Kekydvale," probably "Kegid-fele," *i. e.*, "the hemlock on the banks of the Bele," occurs in 1540.

<sup>2</sup> See more fully under Meifod as the mother church.

<sup>3</sup> There seems to be no satisfactory ground for assuming any previous appropriation to Ystrad Marchell, or to Christchurch, by Cardinal Wolsey, who died in 1530.

<sup>4</sup> "Anno primo oct', and in the 38th year of King Henry VIII, for lands gevine by His Ma'tie to his new colledge in Oxeford. Vicker xvli. xivs.

The humble petition (and sad condition as touching the inward man) of the inhabitants of this parish, presented to the Committee of Parliament for settling ministers of the Gospel in Wales, exposes a very pitiable state of things as existing here in the middle of the seventeenth century. They complain that whilst the living was an impropriation of £400 a year only one-fourth was paid to the vicar; "that in the bishopp's tyme they had oft complained for want of an able minister, but could get none during the life of him they had, who kept them full sixty years in that penury of the word; that after his decease they were supplied for a time by Mr. Edward Ellis, an able divine untill for supposed delinquency he was sequestered, silenced, and outed; that ever sithence for some years they had continued without any minister at all, without communion, without baptisme, visiting of the sicke or forme of a church among them, the doors of the church being commonly shutt on the Lord's day as particularly on Ester day last and the Lord's day followinge; that these sacred rights were not only withheld, but invectives published against such as should minister them by ambulatory preachers who told them theyr sermons were sufficient for salvation, and recompense enough for the tithe they paid which was exacted of them in great rigour; and that the service of God by this means was much decayed and religion scandalised, etc."<sup>1</sup> The issue of their petition is not stated. In 1685 there arose a controversy of some interest between the vicars of Guilsfield and Meifod concerning certain tithes in Penylan; the former, Dr. Davies, asserting that they had been given up by one of his predecessors in his old age to a vicar of Meifod for attending to the spiritual interests of his parishioners in Penylan, and that he now reclaimed his right to them; the latter, Mr. Randolph Davies, denied the existence of any such agreement, and claimed for the payment a much more ancient origin, at the same time fortifying his opinion with the fact that several of the inhabitants of Penylan had their own seates or formes in the church, and were furthermore bound to repaire a portion of the churchyard fence.<sup>2</sup> This argument appears to have settled the question, as a sum of £7 was allowed to the vicar of Meifod from this township at the Commutation of the tithes. The original payment was probably coeval with the formation of the daughter parish of Guilsfield, and, as so often elsewhere in similar cases, represented the acknowledgment of their primitive connection. By the confiscation of the property of the Marquis of Powis, in 1690, an unexpired lease of the rectorial tithes of this and the adjoining

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The parsonage of Ein wood (Meifod), within the bishopricke of St. Asaphe, by yeare, lxxvi. xiijs. iiij*d*. . . . . Vicker, xiiij*li*. vs. ij*d*. The parsonage of Pole in the same bishoprick, xxx*li*. . . . . Vickere, xj*li*. The parsonage of Gilesfeelde in the same bishopricke, xxj*li*."—*Montgomeryshire Collections*, 1872, p. 124.

<sup>1</sup> "Copia vera concordat cum originali examinat. nos Junii 1<sup>o</sup>, 1652. Ed. Ellis Clarke, John Phillips."—MS. G. 134.

<sup>2</sup> MS. Book G.







— Guilsfield Ch. —



Guilsfield. Ch

parishes of Meifod, Welshpool, and Buttington, which he held under Christ Church, Oxford, was assigned to the Bishops of Coventry and St. Asaph for the augmentation of the several vicarages, together with those of St. Martin's and Chirk. The Commutation returns give the following list :—

	Ch. Ch., Oxford.	Vicar.
Broniarth, Upper and Lower . . . . .	£247 10 0	£80 0 0 <sup>1</sup>
Gungrog Fechan, Trelydan, and Garth . . . . .	211 10 0	72 0 0
Hendrehen, Llan, and Trawscoed . . . . .	58 10 0	20 0 0
Llanerchrochwel . . . . .	147 10 0	50 0 0
Farchoel, Burgedin, and Rhetescyn . . . . .	344 0 0	117 0 0
Tirymyneich . . . . .	121 10 0	41 10 0
	£1130 10 0	£380 10 0

This last township derived its name from the Abbey of Ystrad Marchell, Strata Marcella, which stood within it, and the lands of which, amounting to 349 a. 1 r. 10 p. in Crowther's Hall, Dyer's, Tynycelyn, and Bank, besides 300 acres of woodland, all of which now belong to the Earl of Powis, are entirely free from tithe. The vicarage house was built in 1824 at an outlay of £1,874, and has 15 acres of glebe attached. It is in the patronage of the bishop of the diocese.

To the church various dedications have been assigned. According to Rees' *Welsh Saints* the first founder was Aelhaiarn, who lived in the sixth century, the present foundation being dedicated, according to Bishop Maddox's book, to St. Giles, and according to Brown Willis, to All Saints; whereas the festival day, November 8, corresponds to neither, but to that of St. Tysilio, the founder of the mother church of Meifod.<sup>2</sup> The fabric is probably the finest in the county, and it contains many features of great interest, but its present condition is very incongruous and unseemly. The plan consists of chancel, nave, with north and south aisles, massive embattled tower with a small spire at the west end, and a fine south porch with vestry above. The clustered pillars of the nave arcading, and the older portions of the roof, are of decorated character; the paneled roof of the old chancel is of elaborate perpendicular work, and placed over the other, and portions of the rich screen which once divided it from the nave are still preserved, whilst work of more modern character is indicated by dates upon different parts of the edifice, 1714, 1736, 1753, 1759. The chancel window is a very poor representation of the earlier perpendicular of five lights, and the walls are covered with monuments of the older families of the parish. The roof of the sacristy has once had its deeply moulded panels richly coloured. In the nave, which is lighted by a clerestory range of three foliated lights under a

<sup>1</sup> Plus £27 to vicar of Meifod.

<sup>2</sup> "Fons Tyssilio", i.e., Tyssilio's Well, was, moreover, one of the boundary points mentioned in the foundation charter of Ystrad Marchell, granted by Owen Cyfeiliog in 1170.



square hooding, the most striking feature is the curious misarrangement of the pews and benches, which may be summarily described as of all sorts of form, height, date, condition, and approach. The old octagonal font is rude and curious; its alternate panels bear rudely carved heads, and on the splay beneath are the fleur-de-lis and rose. Over the westernmost arch on the north side stand the royal arms of the date 1764, and on the other side or reverse an old altar piece, the Lord's Table. A gallery occupies the west end of the nave, and there is another the whole length of the south aisle; this roof is of excellent workmanship, with curious carved bosses, and is lighted by dormer windows. Among the numerous monuments may be noticed those to the Egertons and Jukes of Trelydan 1733, 1754, 1772, Brochwell Griffiths of Broniarth 1742,<sup>1</sup> Lloyds and Owens of Trawscoed, Myttons of Garth; J. Jones of Crosswood, 1854; this last bears a medallion portrait with three female mourners, and is the work of J. H. Foley, A.R.A.

Some of the registers are early, and date from 1573, and among their more generally interesting contents must be noted—

1. A list of the Latin synonyms for the trades and occupations of the district.

2. A list of offertories and collections made under different briefs.

3. Some verses by Vicar Meredith.

The school, built by subscription and a grant from the National Society in 1827 has two endowments of £5 each, the one charged on Llanerchrochwel by Mr. Stephen Thomas, Sen.,<sup>2</sup> in 1735, the other on Bwlch by Mr. Benjamin Thomas in 1716.

The other charities comprise—

1. Rentcharge of £2 10s. on Wayder by Mr. Rob. Griffiths of Garth, 1634.

2. Consol. charities [£200 by Charles Christopher, 1757; £100 by John Davies, 1731; £90 by Elizabeth Lloyd; £10 by — Wynne of Trelydan]; £400 in turnpike bonds.

3. Each fourth year's rent of Hester Farmer's land in Shrewsbury, c. £25.

4. Rentcharge on Garth estate by Mrs. Margaret Griffiths, 1708, £2.

5. Do. on a tenement in Gaer by R. T. David Goch, 1663, £1.

6. Do. on Dol by Mrs. Elizabeth Lloyd, 1716, £2.

7. Do. on Broniarth by William Jones, 1735, £5.

8. Do. tenement in Burgedin by T. Rogers of Varchoel, 1650, £3.

9. Do. the Cockshut by R. ap William ap Evan, 1608, 14s.

10. Do. on Maes y Plas by Thos. Gollings, 1716, £3.

11. Interest of £46 : 13 : 2 on turnpike bond by Mr. Benjamin Thomas, £2 : 6 : 8.

<sup>1</sup> He was grandson of Bishop George Griffith, and by his death the family name became extinct.

<sup>2</sup> He left another £5 per annum to provide shoes and clothing for the children.

Lost charities:—

1. Sum of £ 32 by T. Rogers, of Burgedin, spent on house belonging to the parish in Groes Lwyd.
2. Do. £20 by Anne Parry, 1776, used by churchwardens.
3. Do. £1 for poor and £2 per annum for repairs of church by David ap Hugh.
4. Do. £2 for township of Burgedin by Margaret Pitts.
5. Do. £2 10s. per annum by Mrs. Ann Powell.
6. £20 by Issachar Rogers of Burgedin.
7. Do. £45, part of £67 10s. by Thomas Wynne, 1615.

## VICARS.

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| 1537.—LLOYD, John <sup>1</sup>           | 1694.—THELWALL, Orlando <sup>7</sup>         |
| 1554.—AP MADOC, John <sup>2</sup>        | 1704.—PARRY, Henry, A.M. <sup>8</sup>        |
| 1556.—BAGHE, David                       | 1730.—VAUGHAN, William, M.A.                 |
| —JOHNS, David                            | 1754.—PARRY, Hum., M.A. <sup>9</sup>         |
| 1558.—AP RHYS, Hugh                      | 1755.—PARRY, Randolph, M.A. <sup>10</sup>    |
| 1569.—GRUFFYDD, Hugh <sup>3</sup>        | 1769.—OWEN, Daniel <sup>11</sup>             |
| 1586.—HOLLAND, John <sup>4</sup>         | 1777.—PARRY, Roger <sup>12</sup>             |
| 1639.—ELLIS, Edward <sup>5</sup>         | 1786.—BROWN, William <sup>13</sup>           |
| 1670.—DAVIES, Samuel, LL.D. <sup>6</sup> | 1819.—LUXMOORE, C. T. C., M.A. <sup>14</sup> |
- 1863.—LEWIS, David Philips, M.A., St. John's Coll., Camb., Deac., 1843; Pr., 1844; Curate of Sudeley, 1843-5; Oswestry, 1845-7; Welshpool, 1847-50; P. C. Buttington, 1850-63.

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POOL QUAY.<sup>15</sup>

THIS ecclesiastical district, formed by an Order in Council Feb. 3rd, 1863, comprises the township of Rhydescyn and the chief part of Tirymynech in Guilsfield, together with about 700 acres from Gun-

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<sup>1</sup> Qu. V. Welshpool?

<sup>2</sup> Deprived for being married.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanwyddelan, 1540.

<sup>4</sup> S. R. Llanfor and R. Llanwyddelan, 1581; Canon, 1599.

<sup>5</sup> Deprived by Parliamentary Committee. Qu. Canon, 1660?

<sup>6</sup> Canon, 1667; V. Welshpool, 1668; Preb. Meliden, 1685.

<sup>7</sup> R. Aberhafesp, 1690; Canon, 1697.

<sup>8</sup> R. Llandderfel, 1675-1704; V. Ysgeifiog, 1702-4; R. Llandyssil, 1719.

<sup>9</sup> V. Leighton, co. Salop.

<sup>10</sup> Canon, 1746; V. Llanyblodwel, 1747-53; R. Llandyssil, 1753-55; P. C. Moreton, where he resided.

<sup>11</sup> V. Choral, 1760.

<sup>12</sup> Of Pwllhalog. He became rector of Hemerton, Gloucestershire, as next of kin to Bishop Goodman.

<sup>13</sup> R. Newtown, 1775; Preb. Meifod, 1779; V. Berriew, 1793; V. Meifod, 1794.

<sup>14</sup> R. Marchwiall, 1816-19. Monument on north wall of church.

<sup>15</sup> Up to this point the Severn is navigable for barges; and formerly this

grog in Welshpool, having a total area of about 3,000 acres,<sup>1</sup> and a population of 421.

The endowment, amounting to £198 per annum, arises from benefactions made by the Earl of Powis and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. A vicarage house,<sup>2</sup> the corner stone of which was laid on Oct. 2, 1873, has also been added on a site presented, together with 4 acres of land, by the patron, the Earl of Powis.

The church, dedicated in the name of St. John the Evangelist, was built at the sole expense of the patron from the designs of Mr. Pountney-Smith of Shrewsbury, and comprises in its plan a chancel with north and south aisles, the latter forming an organ chamber, and the former terminated by the vestry, and a nave with lean-to north aisle, the western extremity of which forms the baptistry and opens into the nave through a double light opening. Over the west end stands a picturesque wooden campanile containing three bells, and approached by an external polygonal stair turret. The porch is of arcaded timber work with the openings glazed, so as to form an anteporch to the south door. Beneath the chancel is a crypt. The material is a warm coloured stone from Sweeney mountain. Internally, the roof of chancel and nave is a lofty pointed groined ceiling of wood, the moulded ribs springing from stone corbels. The east end is pierced by three lancets surmounted by a rose, and has a reredos formed of open foils and of panels with illuminated texts. On the north side stands a credence, and in the south wall the sedilia. The pulpit and desk are of Caen and Bath stone arcaded and open, and the former, like the font, which is circular and stands upon a polygonal pedestal, is ornamented with the tooth beading. The pretty churchyard is very carefully tended.

The school and master's house were erected in 1862 mainly by the residents, aided by grant from Privy Council, and a class room has since been added (1872) by the Earl of Powis.

#### VICAR.

1863.—FIELD, Augustus, M.A., Clare Hall, Cambridge; Deac., 1853; Pr., 1854; Curate of Tregynon, 1853-62.

used to be the great smelting-place and loading wharf for the lead obtained in the Llangynog mines.

<sup>1</sup> *Tirymynech*, "the Monks' Land," was so called from having belonged, in great part, to the Abbey of "Ystrad Marchell" (*Strata Marcella*), which stood on the river's bank within its limits.

<sup>2</sup> Built by the Earl of Powis and Queen Anne's Bounty. Two courses of stone in the porch, and others in the arch and label, are remains of the old Abbey, lately discovered in an old wall at the Bank Farm.



## HIRNANT.

THE four townships of Trellan, Trefedw, Cwmillech, and Cwmhir, comprise an area of 4,000 acres of the rateable value of £1,646, with 49 inhabited houses, and a population of 261; and to this has been added on the reconstruction of Pennant the township of Ffinffrwd with a further population of 10. The *Taxatio* has "Ecclia de Hyrnant taxat £4 : 6 : 8, dec. 8s. 8d."; the *Valor* gives the rectory as worth £5, clare £4 : 3 : 10, inde decima 8s. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.; whilst the Commutation assigned £246 to the rector (and £3 to the parish clerk), to which have also been added the tithes of Ffinffrwd, £6 : 17 : 6, transferred in 1855. The rectory house, built originally during the incumbency of Robert Lloyd, was partly rebuilt in 1813, and has attached to it 10 acres of glebe. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The church, founded by St. Illog,<sup>1</sup> August 8th, is small and unmarked by any feature of interest, save a curious epitaph on one of its old rectors.<sup>2</sup>

Among the benefactions to this parish have been :

1. 10s. rentcharge on Cwmmwr (Cwmhir) farm. Anon.
2. Sum of £10 by David HUMPHREYS of Llanrhaiadr, 1721.
3. Do. £60 by Thomas JONES of Rhiwsaeth, 1787.
4. Do. £20 by Ellis JONES of Pennant, 1802.

Of these 3 and 4 were expended many years ago for parochial purposes, and interest thereupon paid annually out of the church rates until these were abolished and the interest lost.

## RECTORS.

1537.—Thomas ap Madoc

1542.—Ffoulk ap Griffith

1580.—VAUGHAN, J.<sup>3</sup>

1588.—POWELL, Thomas<sup>4</sup>

1632.—EVANS, Humphrey, A.M.

1637.—SPARK, Archbld., B.D.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ffynnon Illog is close by, and a tumulus on an eminence called "Carn-edd," is supposed to cover his remains.

<sup>2</sup> "Subtus jacet Johannes Hughes, Denbighensis, A.B., hujus parochiæ per xi an. Rector. Ita fidus ut officii sui pastoralis pessima ætate fuit laudabiliter tenax. Quippe non solum publicis ecclesiæ precibus his summa per pericula interfuit sacros inter ipsos muros haud semel fanatico hoste circumdatus, sed etiam in carcerem malevole conjectus vinculis exultabat heros Christianus. Et cum non potuit usq. voluit suo inservire populo Hirnantiano donec tandem animam suam lubens efflavit an. Dom. 1683, post varios casus et longæ tediæ vitæ, an. etat. 83. Sic apud posteros vivat Hueticus nepotibus suis (Da. Edwards, Cath. Hughes, et in hac ecclesia successori Rob. Lloyd) neutiquam silendus. P. M. S. 1777."

<sup>3</sup> V. Llanwyddelan, 1576-81.

<sup>4</sup> R. Llanfechain, 1562; Archdeacon of St. Asaph and R. Barrington, dioc. Gloucester. Died 1589.

<sup>5</sup> V. Choral, 1632; Canon, 1637; V. Corwen, 1638; V. Northop, 1639; Preb. Llanefydd, 1662.

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| 1638.—LLOYD, Hugh, B.D. <sup>1</sup>   | 1796.—CLOUGH, Thomas, M.A. <sup>7</sup> |
| 1643.—HUGHES, John, A.B. <sup>2</sup>  | 1807.—WILLIAMS, Henry J. <sup>8</sup>   |
| 1683.—EDWARDS, Owen                    | 1808.—HUGHES, David, M.A. <sup>9</sup>  |
| 1685.—FFOULKES, John, A.M.             | 1817.—HAMER, Ezekiel <sup>10</sup>      |
| 1717.—LLOYD, Robert, A.M. <sup>3</sup> | 1820.—EVANS, Evan                       |
| 1757.—EDWARDS, John, A.M. <sup>4</sup> | 1823.—WILLIAMS, David                   |
| 1765.—LEWIS, John                      | 1826.—WILLIAMS, David <sup>11</sup>     |
| 1782.—JONES, Thomas <sup>5</sup>       | 1847.—PUGHE, Thomas                     |
| 1790.—HUMPHREYS, John <sup>6</sup>     | 1850.—WILLIAMS, W. E., B.A.             |
- 1867.—JONES, Richard, St. David's, Lampeter, Scholar and Tutor ;  
Deacon, 1839 ; Pr., 1841 ; R. Llangynog, 1850-67.

### LLANDRINIO.

THE four townships of Llandrinio, Trederwen,<sup>12</sup> Penthryn Fawr, and Penthryn Fechan, constituted this parish until the year 1844, when the two latter were transferred to the district church of Penrhos. The area comprises 3,865 acres, of the rateable value of £6,880, with a population of 875.

Two circumstances, viz. the entry in the *Tuzatio* of 1291 and the grant of a market and fair in 1309, indicate the early importance of this parish, and this is corroborated by the still surviving remains of the old Norman church. In the first we read "Ecclia de Landri-meaw taxat' Porcio Johis apud (sic) Gruffud £4 et quia h(ab)et alia beneficia inde decima 8s. Porcio Heylyn ap Matthew £3 et quia alibi est beneficiatus inde decima 6s. Porcio Vicarii £2." Under the second we learn that an inquest was held at Abertanat in 1309, at which the jurors decided that it would not be to the king's damage to grant to Griffin de la Pole and his heirs to have a weekly market on Thursdays, and two annual fairs of three days each,<sup>13</sup> in his manor

<sup>1</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford ; Archdeacon of St. David's, 1638. Deprived. Bishop of Llandaff, 1660.

<sup>2</sup> Son of Hugh Roberts. V. Llangwm. Deprived. See epitaph.

<sup>3</sup> V. Eglwysfach, 1680.

<sup>4</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford.

<sup>5</sup> V. Pennant, 1757 ; R. Llangynog, 1762. Published, in Welsh, Archbishop Secker's Lectures, *Rheol o Addoliad ac Ymarfer Duwioldeb i'r Husmon*.

<sup>6</sup> Of Caerynwch.

<sup>7</sup> Canon, 1794 ; R. Denbigh, 1797 ; V. Nantglyn, 1806.

<sup>8</sup> V. Welshpool, 1809.

<sup>9</sup> R. Llanfyllin, 1813.

<sup>10</sup> V. Pennant, 1788.

<sup>11</sup> Son of preceding.

<sup>12</sup> Alias "Trederwen Feibion Gwnwas."

<sup>13</sup> To be held respectively on the eve, the day, and the morrow, of SS. Peter and Paul, and of the Eleven Thousand Virgins. This is probably the real origin of the custom referred to in the following note of the Rector : "About a hundred years ago there were no bridges and no roads, and consequently

of Llandrinio in Deudowr."<sup>1</sup> In the interval between the *Taxatio* and the *Valor*, *i. e.*, 1291 and 1535 the portions had become united, and they had moreover absorbed the rectory of Llandysilio, and probably also that of Melverley, for neither of these appears again as a separate rectory until the year 1846. The rectory is returned in the *Valor*, as of the gross value of £26 : 13 : 4, deductions for synods and procurations £1 : 16 : 7, clear value £24 : 16 : 9 and tenths thereupon to the king £2 : 9 : 8. Rector Griffith, having been deprived of it by the Parliamentary sequestrators during the Commonwealth, and on the restoration of Charles II being promoted to the see of St. Asaph, took this living in commendam; and in this he was followed by his successors until the death of Bishop Carey in 1846. The commuted value of the tithes is £556 3s.<sup>2</sup> in addition to which there is a rectory house built by Bishop Lloyd, and much improved in 1848 at a cost of £783, together with 40 acres of glebe land worth about £2 per acre. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The church, which bears its founder's name, though small is very interesting. The ground plan consists of a simple oblong body, distinguished externally into chancel and nave, with a small tower at the west end and a south porch. From a Norman arch and an ogee piscina visible externally in the north wall it would appear to have been at one time a double church, and of course much larger than at present. The south door, the fine old Norman font, and a narrow loop window on the north side belong to the same period. The east window, a small three light, decorated, is a later insertion, as is evidenced by the walling. The carved pulpit and the old communion table, now in the vestry, are of Elizabethan date. A yet more recent gallery occupies the west end, and the church has been twice repaired within the present century, *viz.* in 1829 and 1860. On this last occasion it was repewed with open seats, the pulpit removed to the east end, and a new desk set up on the north side. The custom of decorating the graves with flowers still prevails here, and especially on Easter eve.

The National School was erected in the churchyard in 1827, the cost being £140. In 1860 it was repaired and improved, and in 1865 a master's house was added. And again in 1873 it has been almost rebuilt by the Rev. W. Short at a cost of £300.

no communication but by packhorses with Shrewsbury. *Twice every year a boat came from Bridgenorth, and was stationed near the place where the bridge now stands. A kind of fair was then carried on, in which the produce of the land was either sold or exchanged for clothing or household necessities.*" The wakes were observed on the first Sunday after St. Peter's, which exactly accords with one of them.

<sup>1</sup> *Montgomeryshire Collections*, 1868, pp. 68 and 151.

<sup>2</sup> Ancient moduses were for Kinmery (Cymmerau) Farm, 6s. 8d.; Mardy Farm, 6s. 8d.; Hayland in Penrhyn fechan, 1d. a day math; Penrhos for corn and hay, 40s. (Z.)



At the hamlet of Arddleen<sup>1</sup> a school for girls and infants was erected by subscription in 1862 and enlarged in 1871, the respective outlays being £223 and £65. In addition to its school purposes it is also used for divine services on Sundays.

The charities comprise—

£40 by Mrs. Margaret Pitts, 1722 ; and £20 Mrs. Long, interest payable from Rhysnant estate.

£50 by Miss Mary Bernard, 1783, upon Rhysnant, £2 10s.

Rentcharge by Mrs. Hannah Aldersey on Rhos Farm, 15s.

Poors Patch 3 a. 0 r. 16 p. in exchange for gift of Robert Davies.

Rentcharge for bread by Arthur Vaughan, Esq., on Cae Joiner, £2 12s.

£100 by Mary Derwas the interest for gowns, distributed by J. R. Ormsby Gore, Esq., M.P.

Lost—Rentcharge of 10s. upon Llannerick by Mrs. Sarah Austin, 1748, void by statute of mortmain.

#### RECTORS.

1537.—Jeffrey ap Meredith

1577.—HUGHES, Bp. in Comm.

1557.—BRERETON, Thomas<sup>2</sup>

1594.—WILLIAMS, John, D.D.<sup>5</sup>

1561.—KYFFIN, Jeffrey, LL.B.<sup>3</sup>

1613.—PRICE, Foulk, B.D.<sup>6</sup>

1567.—PRICE, Richard, LL.B.<sup>4</sup>

1632.—GRIFFITH, George, B.D.

1661-1846.—Bishops in Commendam.

1846.—RUSSELL, John, A.M., P. C. Llandrinio and Penrhos, 1825.

1858.—SHORT, William, M.A., Christ Church, Oxford ; Student, 1809 ; Double First, B.A., 1814 ; Deac., 1816 ; Pr., 1817 ; V., Chippenham, Wilts, 1824 ; Prebendary of Stratford in Salisbury Cathedral, 1834 ; R., St. George the Martyr, London, 1837 ; Author of *Sermons*, 1849 ; Brother of Bishop Short.

#### PENRHOS.

“THE Chapel of the Holy Trinity” was built in 1625, at the expense of Mr. Hugh Derwas and Mr. Owen Edwards, upon the common waste lands of the Manor of Deytheur,<sup>7</sup> and was consecrated by Bi-

<sup>1</sup> “Y Gardd-lin,” *i. e.*, the flax garden.

<sup>2</sup> V. Northop, 1539.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llanrwst, 1551 ; Canon, 1566.

<sup>4</sup> Comportioner of Llandinam, 1561 ; S. R. Pennant, 1565 ; R. Selattyn, 1578.

<sup>5</sup> Fellow of All Souls' College, Oxford ; Principal of Jesus College ; Margaret Professor of Divinity ; S. R. Llanarmon yn Ial, 1595 ; Dean of Bangor. Author of *Concio ad Clerum*, 1597, and editor of Roger Bacon's *De Retardandis Senectutis Accidentibus*.

<sup>6</sup> R. Cerrigydrudion, 1597 ; Preb. Llanfair and V. Gresford. He preached the sermon at the consecration of Penrhos Church, Oct. 3, 1627.

<sup>7</sup> The district between the two rivers, “Dau-ddwr,” *i. e.*, the Severn and the Vyrniew.

shop Haumer, Oct. 3, 1627. Until recently it has been simply a "chapel of ease" to Llandrinio without any cure of souls attached to it; but by an Order in Council, dated November 28th, 1844, it was constituted a new ecclesiastical district, consolidated out of the four adjoining parishes, with an area of about 4,000 acres and a population (1871) of 940.

The deed of consecration gives the nomination of the curate to the founders (and their heirs for ever), who endowed it with £8 per annum, and appear to have appointed John Vaughan to be the first incumbent.<sup>1</sup> During the Commonwealth a disputation occurred near this chapel between Dr. Griffith, the rector of Llandrinio, afterwards Bishop of St. Asaph, and the celebrated Vavasor Powel.<sup>2</sup> In 1683 Mr. William Derwas appointed Mr. Roe to the curacy, and in his time the grammar school at Deytheur was founded by the Hon. Andrew Newport, Lord of the Manor, who endowed it with a house and some lands, and consented to the enclosure of others within his manor for its benefit.<sup>3</sup> In consideration of this, the nomination of the master was granted to him and his heirs, and he appears further to have claimed the nomination to the chapel. For on the death of Mr. Roe, in 1706, there occurs this entry in the register, "*Hic patet intervalum propter lites perniciosas inter Rich. Newport comitem de Bradford et Richardu Lyster, Armiger.*" The result of which was that the lord of the manor secured the presentation to both the chapel and the school, which from that time forward till 1845 were held together. At this date the endowment of the chapel was made up as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
1. Rentcharge on Collfryn estate, given by — Darlington, now represented by the Bradfords . . .	12	0	0
2. Rentcharge on Llwyn estate, by Hugh Derwas, Esq. . .	8	0	0
3. Rent of Cringoe Fach in Llanerfyl, sixty-three acres, purchased with Queen Anne's Bounty grants <sup>4</sup> . . .	15	0	0 <sup>5</sup>
4. Interest of £600 from Queen Anne's Bounty . . .	19	10	0
	<hr/> £54 10 0		

On the formation, however, of the consolidated district, £20 each was transferred for its endowment by the sinecure rectors of Llandrinio and Llansantffraid and the vicar of Meifod, and £10 by the vicar of Guilsfield, to which the dean and chapter of Christ Church, Oxford, as impropiators of the rectorial tithes of the two last parishes

<sup>1</sup> Or, perhaps, "*pro curato*" may mean as "*locum tenens*."

<sup>2</sup> *Suprà*, p. 110.

<sup>3</sup> "The westernmost part of Llandrinio, the southernmost part of Llansantffraid, the easternmost part of Meifod, and the northernmost part of Guilsfield."

<sup>4</sup> Grants of £200 each were made in 1780, 1792, and 1829, and one of £400 in 1830.

<sup>5</sup> Present rental, £12.

added another £20 per annum. In lieu of this last payment a subsequent transfer has been made of a tithe rentcharge of £59 10s. within the district, and a similar exchange by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners has been made of £30 : 7 : 10 for the payment of the sine-cure rector of Llansantffraid, and this has again in 1871 been augmented by a tithe rentcharge of £35 : 1 : 4 in lieu of the previous interest of £600 from Queen Anne's Bounty. The present income is therefore £186 : 19 : 2, with a house erected in 1849-50 at a cost of £1,006,<sup>1</sup> and five acres of glebe given by the patron, Mr. Ormsby Gore, M.P., of Brogyntyn.

An interesting account of the consecration of the first chapel on Oct. 3, 1627, preserved in book G, informs us that the sermon was preached by Mr. Fulke Price, rector of Llandrinio, after which the bishop went to the seat prepared for him "in orientali sinu capellæ," read ii Chron. vi, 14-31, and then pronounced the church to be consecrated for the performance of all divine offices, to be celebrated in it with the consent of the rector of the parish church. This chapel was but small, 48 ft. by 18 ft., and built of rubble stone with mud-plaster and a roof of shingles; the communion table was not railed off, and it was the custom to administer the holy communion to the people in their pews. It was taken down in 1844.

The present church was erected in 1845, and comprises chancel, nave, south porch, a small round tower with a spire at the north-west angle, and a vestry on the north side. The architect was Mr. Sidney Smirke of London, and the total cost about £1,070, of which £400 was contributed by the diocesan C.B.S. (£150), the incorporated C.B.S. (£100), the sale of pews (£150), and the remainder by the patron.

#### CURATES.

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|--|--|
| 1627.—VAUGHAN, John, A.M. <sup>2</sup> | 1763.—WORTHINGTON, Matt. <sup>3</sup>  |
| 1683.—ROE, Francis                     | .—MORVILLE, John                       |
| 1710.—BARNET, Nehemiah                 | 1825.—RUSSELL, John, A.M. <sup>4</sup> |
| 1713.—OWEN, Thomas, B.A.               |  |

#### VICAR.

1845.—WHITAKER, Samuel, M.A., St. John's Coll., Cambridge; late Scholar and Exhibitioner, sen. opt., 1839; Deac., 1839; Pr., 1840; Curate of Tipton, 1839; Dunnington, York, 1842.

<sup>1</sup> Ecclesiastical Commissioners, £463; Mr. Ormsby Gore, in building materials, £230; collected by the Vicar, £240; and the balance from further subscriptions.

<sup>2</sup> R. Garthbeibio.

<sup>3</sup> R. Cemmaes, 1793-73; R. Llangadfan, 1773-96. Resided at Penrhos.

<sup>4</sup> P. C. Llandrinio, 1825; Rector, 1846.



## DEYTHUR GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

AN indenture dated 2nd July, 1690, states that the Hon. Andrew Newport, Esq., Lord of the Manor or Lordship of Deythur, had at his own cost erected a schoolroom, and that for the perpetual maintenance of a schoolmaster, to instruct the children of the lord and tenants of the said manor in reading, writing, Latin and Greek grammar, he conveyed the said house with sundry acres of land in trust; the nomination of the master to be vested in himself and heirs; and by another indenture of the same date, it is further recited, that at the request of the freeholders he had consented to the inclosure of certain waste or common lands in augmentation of the endowment. Under an Inclosure Act in 1799, most of these lands were exchanged for others, and the whole quantity now belonging to the school amounts to 55 a. 0 r. 12 p., which were let in 1836 for £87; and there is a further rentcharge of £2 on an estate in Meifod.<sup>1</sup> From 1720 to 1845 the schoolmaster was also the curate of Penrhos Chapel, and latterly at least the school was left entirely to a deputy. The school-house has, however, now been put into good order,<sup>2</sup> and the lands which form the endowment are let for £114 per annum. The appointment belongs to J. R. Ormsby-Gore, Esq., M.P., of Brogyntyn, as lord of the manor.

## MASTERS.

1845.—PURVIS, James, M.A.

1849.—SHEFFIELD, George, Curate of Christ Church, West Bromwich, 1856

1856.—ROBINSON, Edward, M.A., Trin. Coll., Dublin; Catechetical Prizeman, 1858; Deac., 1858; Pr., 1859.

## LLANDYSILIO.

THIS parish comprises the townships of Domgay, Haughton, Rhandregynwen, and Rhysnant, embracing an area of 3,081 acres, of the rateable value of £6,297, with 147 inhabited houses, and a population of 674.

In the *Taxatio* of A.D. 1291 it is given as a distinct parish, divided into a rectory and vicarage, thus "Ecclia de Landisylian tax rectoria £4:6:8, dec. 8s. 8d., vicaria £3 non decimat." Sometime in the interval

<sup>1</sup> Another rentcharge of £2 per ann. on the Trewylan estate has been lost. It is supposed to have been the rental of two pieces called "Gwernygors" in the indenture.

<sup>2</sup> Two new schoolrooms, a diningroom, and three bedrooms over, have within the last twelve years been added; so that there is now accommodation for twenty-five boarders, and upwards of forty day-scholars.

between this and the date of the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of Henry VIII it must have been annexed to Llandrinio, for there is no account given of it there; and so it continued until the death of Bishop Carey, who held that living in commendam, as his predecessors had done ever since the Restoration. In 1846, however, it was again separated and re-endowed with its own tithes, which were commuted at £449 : 16 : 2,<sup>1</sup> besides £4 : 4 : 3 to the parish clerk. The rectory house was erected in 1842, and has been twice enlarged, viz. 1851<sup>2</sup> and 1860, and there are 20 a. 1 r. 26 p. of glebe. The patronage has been transferred from the bishop of the diocese to the see of St. David's.

The old parish church, originally founded by St. Tysilio of Meifod in the seventh century and taken down in 1867, was a quaint and primitive edifice, divided externally into three portions, with a massive ivy covered tower at its west end, and a simple wooden porch on the south side. The portion next the tower was much loftier than the rest, and held a gallery which was lighted from the roof, and on the south side of the chancel was a small two-light decorated window, now in the north wall of the school-room; where also were transferred, on the building of the church, the three plain lancets with heraldic glass that formerly constituted the east window. A fragment of a Norman capital and the remains of a pedestalled stoup may still be seen in and near the vestry.

The new church, erected in 1867-68<sup>3</sup> from the designs of Mr. G. E. Street, and consecrated on August 8th, 1868, is a handsome building of decorated character and comprises a nave with a north aisle of four bays, and a chancel with organ chamber and vestry on the north side, an open timber porch on the south, supported on a stone base, and at the west end of the north aisle a circular tower with an open arcaded belfry, surmounted by a stone steeple. The chancel which is divided from the nave by a low stone screen, and floored with encaustic tiles, has a good reredos, carved by Earp in Caen stone, and showing in its centre a slab of dark marble with traceried panels on either side, and beneath it the legend "E.H.B. obdormivit in Xto., Kal. Apr. 1868." In the south wall is a double piscina, and also a sedile formed by the deepening of the window seat, and by the same method a credence is also provided on the north side. The east window of three lights is filled with stained glass by Clayton and Bell, representing our Lord, in the central division, as in glory, and on either side, as risen and interceding. Beneath runs the inscription "In honorem Dei et dilectissimam memoriam Annæ Turner, Gulielmi R. Turner, et Elizæ Ross uxoris filii et socrus posuit J. J. Turner de

<sup>1</sup> There was a modus of 2s. 6d. for tithe hay of Pentreheylin.

<sup>2</sup> £1,260 was spent upon it, of which sum, £995 was borrowed from Queen Anne's Bounty.

<sup>3</sup> The cost was about £2,413, the chief subscribers being, J. J. Turner, Esq.; Capt. Lloyd, Leaton Knolls; Miss Lloyd; Capt. Wingfield; Rev. R. Temple; Rev. W. Brewster; and Diocesan Church Building Society.

Pentreheylin Armiger, A.D. 1868." The pulpit is of Bath stone, circular and panelled; the font octagonal with foliated circles on its alternate panels. Numerous heraldic monuments commemorate the Lloyds of Domgay and Leaton.

The National School was erected in 1834 at a cost of £88, and enlarged in 1868.

The charities belonging to the poor are—

1. Rentcharge of £1 on Llettybrithill by David Jones of Ludlow, 1696.

2. Ditto, ditto by his brother, Peter Jones.

3. Interest of £50 bequeathed by Mary Bernard of Welshpool, 1783.

4. Interest of £100 bequeathed by Mary Jones Shuker to be laid out in coal at Christmas.

5. Interest of £100 to be distributed on Christmas-day among poor parishioners, secured by a rentcharge of £3 16s. per annum, payable from Domgay farm.

#### RECTORS.

1846.—POOLE, John, B.A.<sup>1</sup>

1859.—BREWSTER, W., M.A.<sup>3</sup>

1850.—BUTLER, Henry, M.A.<sup>2</sup>

1870.—PEROWNE, J. J. S., B.D.<sup>4</sup>

1871.—MATTHEWS, Joseph, M.A., St. John's Coll., Cambridge, 20th Wrangler and B.A., 1846; Deac., 1850; Pr., 1851; Professor of Physical Science, St. David's, Lampeter, 1853; Prebendary of Llangan in St. David's Cathedral, 1856.

#### LLANERFYL.<sup>5</sup>

THIS parish comprises the six townships of Llysyn, Coed Talog, Cynniwyll (or Cenewyll), Crân, Cefullys ucha,<sup>6</sup> and Cefullys isa, with an area of 16,255 acres, of which only 11,741 are rateable and valued at £4,214. The inhabited houses are 164, and the population 835. From this, however, must be deducted a portion of Coed Talog, trans-

<sup>1</sup> Tablet in the church.

<sup>2</sup> V. Bettws Caedewain, 1837-70.

<sup>3</sup> C. Hawarden, 1842-59; R. Middleton, dioc. Manch., 1870.

<sup>4</sup> Late Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge; Preb. St. David's, 1867; Hulsean Lecturer and Vice-Principal of Lampeter, 1868; Canon of Llandaff, 1869; Prælector in Theology at Trinity College, Cambridge, 1872; Examining Chaplain to Bishop Norwich, 1865, and to Bishop of St. Asaph, 1870. Author of *The Book of Psalms*, 2 vols.; *Immortality* (Hulsean Lecture, 1868); *Arabic Grammar*; articles in *Smith's Dictionary of the Bible*, etc.

<sup>5</sup> "A Statistical Account of the Parishes of Llanerfyl, Llangadfan, and Garthbeibio," written by William Jones in 1792, was communicated by the Rev. Walter Davies ("Gwallter Mechain") to the *Cambrian Register*, 1796, p. 366.

<sup>6</sup> This township was granted by Prince Wenynwyn, in 1201, to the Abbey of Strata Marcella (Ystrad Marchell), and formed part of the ecclesiastical manor of Talerddig. The monks had a grange and also a chapel at Dolwen.



ferred to Dolanog in 1856, embracing 762 acres, 8 houses, and 42 population.

In the *Taxatio* the "Ecclia de Lanurryl" is described as a rectory and a vicarage, the former taxed at £4:3:4, dec. 8s. 4d., the latter at £2:6:8 non decimat'; but in the *Valor* the two are combined as "Rector de Llanvivell" and returned as of the gross value of £10, net £9 3s., tenths 18s. 3¼d. The tithes have been commuted at £435 to the rector and £5 to the parish clerk. The rector, however, has transferred £34:4:9 of the tithes of Coed Talog, in consideration of the cure, towards the endowment of the district church at Dolanog. He has, moreover, a glebe of 13 acres, besides 11 acres of enclosed common, and a house erected in 1824 and enlarged in 1866. The patronage has been transferred, by virtue of the recent act, from the bishop of the diocese to the see of St. David's.

The old church, taken down in February, 1870, was dedicated in the name of Erfyl Santes, cousin German to St. Cadvan, whose wakes were observed the Sunday after July 6th. It was a small building, with no marked division of its chancel and nave, a western gallery and belfry, and a south porch. Behind the plaster ceiling was a decorated roof, which has been replaced in the new church. The octagonal font also, with its Tudor flowers, has been repaired and retained. An old shrine of rude workmanship which stood in a recess in the east wall has been transferred to the new vestry, and there also have been set up the five painted panels which faced the old gallery. The central picture was an allegorical representation of the Birth of our Lord, and on either side His Baptism and Crucifixion, the extreme panels representing Moses and St. Paul, the Law and the Gospel. The minutes of a vestry held on the 15th July, 1675, Lord Herbert in the chair, further inform us that the rood loft was then ordered to be taken down, except the door under it, which was to be left to make a distinction betwixt the nave and chancel; and that with the timber, seats by way of gallery were to be erected below the font, and that the reading seat was to be adjoined to the pulpit. The old bell, rehung in the new gable, is dated "1693, God save his church."

The new church, which follows the old dedication after St. Erfyl, was opened for divine service on Sept. 6, 1870, and consists of chancel, nave, western bell gable, south porch, and north vestry. The local blue stone being relieved by warm coloured dressings from the Shelvocke quarries. The chancel, which is divided from the nave by a screen and an arch, is floored with Maw's encaustic tiles, and has a reredos of the same material. The chancel seats, the pulpit with its carved open panels, the prayer desk, and the lectern are all made of oak from the old church; but the seats of the nave are of pitch pine. The south window has been deepened to form a sedile, and the west window is filled with stained glass by Done and Davies of Shrewsbury, the gift of Mr. Thos. Newill, and representing "the Good Shepherd."

<sup>1</sup> The foundation-stone was laid by Isabella Mary M'Intosh, March 31, 1871.

The plans were by Mr. Edward Haycock of Shrewsbury, the accommodation for £200, and the cost £1,600.<sup>1</sup>

In the churchyard, under the shadow of a grand patriarchal yew tree, stands a rude and primitive headstone, about 18 inches high and 10 inches thick, and bearing an inscription "HIC IN .UMU.O IACIT R...STE...CE FILIA PATERINI ANI XIII IN PA..." This has been appropriated locally but incorrectly to St. Erfyl herself, whose well formerly existed about 400 yards from the church, and from which the water long continued to be taken for all baptisms.

The "School" was founded through the bequest of £300 by Mrs. Priscilla Foster<sup>2</sup> of London, in the year 1728, which sum was invested in 1738, in the purchase of "Ty-yn-Glan Menial," comprising about 23 acres of land, to which a mountain allotment of 20 acres more has been added. About the year 1800, timber worth from £150 to £200 was cut upon it, and the proceeds, together with £100 subscriptions, were laid out in the erection of the house and buildings. The present rent of the farm is £31, and the school is under the management of the rector and churchwardens as trustees.

Other charities enumerated in the returns of 1786, but now lost are—9s. 2d. per annum, by Francis Herbert; 4s. 7d. ditto, by Henry David Oliver; 5s. 6d. ditto, by Lady Herbert; 3s. 2d. ditto, by John Evans.

## RECTORS.

1537.—JENN AP GRUFFID <sup>3</sup>	1637.—LANGFORD, William, M.A. <sup>7</sup>
1556.—JOHN AP DAVID <sup>4</sup>	1663.—ROBERTS, Theodore
1557.—DAVID AP JENN AP LLOYD	1675.—NIGHTINGALE, Robert <sup>8</sup>
1571.—DAVIES, Hugh <sup>5</sup>	1718.—PRICE, Lewis, A.M. <sup>9</sup>
1577.—WYNNE, Thomas	1737.—EVANS, David, M.A. <sup>10</sup>
1587.—WILLIAMS, Peter <sup>6</sup>	1776.—DAVIES, George <sup>11</sup>
1598.—JENKINS, Griffith, A.M.	1823.—LLOYD, John
1636.—EVANS, Humphrey	1837.—RICHARDS, Lewis, B.A.

1860.—M'INTOSH, Joseph, B.A., Christ Church, Oxford; 3rd Cl. in Litt. Hum. and B.A., 1841; Deac., 1842; Pr., 1843; Curate of Welshpool, 1842-7; R. Llanwyddelan, 1847-60; and P. C. Llanllugan, 1851-60.

<sup>1</sup> Chief sources,—The Earl of Powis, who bore one-third of the whole cost; Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart.; and grants from Diocesan Church Building Society, Carey Fund, and Incorporated Church Building Society.

<sup>2</sup> She was of the Herbert family.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llanfor, 1561.

<sup>4</sup> R. Llanycil, 1556.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llanwrin, 1562; S. R. Pennant, 1577; V. Welshpool, 1579.

<sup>6</sup> V. Ysgeifiog, 1590; Canon, 1595; R. Manafon, 1596; R. Marchwial and Preb. Meifod, 1598; S. R. Llansannan, 1599; V. Rhuabon, 1600.

<sup>7</sup> Master of Ruthin School, 1626; R. Heneglwys, 1630; V. Welshpool, 1632; S. R. Llanfor, 1644.

<sup>8</sup> V. Pennant, 1665; V. Llanyblodwel, 1668; V. Llansantffraid, 1672.

<sup>9</sup> V. Llanfair Caereinion, 1715.

<sup>10</sup> R. Llanymyneich, 1776.

<sup>11</sup> P. C. Flint, 1736-1823, where he resided.

## LLANWDDYN.

THIS parish comprises the townships of Trellan and Yspytty in the Manor of Llanwddyn, formerly belonging to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and those of Garthbwlech, Abermarchnant ucha and Rhiwargor in the Manor of Mochnant, embracing an area of 19,500 acres, of the rateable value of £1,966, with population 443, to which was added in 1855 the township of Dwyffrwd from Pennant, with an area of 524 a. 3 r. 32 p. and a population of 46.

In the *Taxatio* of 1291 no distinct notice of this place occurs, nor is it known how soon the manor came into the possession of the knights, to whose establishment at Halston it was early attached. Abermarchnant<sup>1</sup> and Rhiwargor were formerly looked upon as outlying townships of Llanrhaiadr; and it is most likely that "Lle'r Hen Eglwys" on the Cedig brook indicates the ancient Capella, where some member of the collegiate establishment attached to the mother church used to serve the cure of souls; hence the tithes of these two townships have always been paid to the rector of that parish, and as such they were appropriated in 1678, to the repairs of the fabric of St. Asaph Cathedral and the augmentation of the revenue of the choir, to which objects they are still applied. When the Knights of St. John received their grant it is pretty certain that they followed here their usual custom and established a cell of their own, with a chaplain to look after the spiritual welfare of their tenants, and that eventually he undertook also the cure of the two townships of Llanrhaiadr and of the adjacent township of Garthbwlech, an outlying and distant member of Llansantffraid in Mechain, receiving in consideration thereof their Easter dues.<sup>2</sup> In the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, Hen. VIII, A.D. 1535, under "Comaundr' de Hawston" and in "D'nio de Powes" we find "Firma voc' Llanotlyn sic dim Mor'ap Dd Lloid ad t'mi annor' cu pficuis cur' viili."; from which we gather that the knights, as lords of the manor in which they held their court (cura), must have been patrons also of the advowson, which is not otherwise noticed. A few years later we have this further record,<sup>3</sup> "2 Eliz., 15th March, Montgomery county, Llanwythyn. Enrolment of grant thereof to George Lee and Thomas Bowyer for ever, of the manor, rectory and church of Llanwythyn, lately belonging to the Hospital of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem with all mess'es, lands, tenements, meadows, feedings,<sup>4</sup> pastures, commons, rents, and hereditaments, there called by divers names, parcel of Halston commandatory or preceptory." At the beginning of the last century these were in the hands of Mr.

<sup>1</sup> The pasturage of this township was granted in 1204, by Prince Gwenwynwyn, to the Abbey of Ystrad Marchell. (*Mont. Coll.*, 1873, p. 401.)

<sup>2</sup> This township joined in the expenses of the church and the poor. Dwyffrwd, in Pennant, also used the church, but took no share of these expenses.

<sup>3</sup> "Land Rev. Rolls, N. W.," vol. ii, fol. 238, in *Mont. Coll.*, 1870, p. 124.

<sup>4</sup> Qu. "bosc," i. e., woods?



Herbert, M.P. for Ludlow, from whom they descended to the Earl of Powis, the present patron. At the time of the Commutation the tithes were returned as £100 3s. to the impropiator, £62 17s. to the Dean and Chapter of St. Asaph, and £1 to the parish clerk.

In 1850 the Earl of Powis gave up a rentcharge of £30 2s. on his tithes of Rhiwargor to meet the transfer by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners of the tithes of Garthbwlich, £20 per annum, previously belonging to the sinecure rector of Llansantffraid; and in 1855 he added the remaining £70 1s. per annum to meet the tithes of Dwyffrwd, £33 11s. per annum, transferred with that township by the Commissioners. The incumbent's income at the present time comprises, tithe-rentcharge £153 14s.; "Frongoch farm,"<sup>1</sup> £57; "Tyglas" in Llangynog, £25; "Penycringoed" in Llanerfyl, £8; tenement on Frongoch, £6 6s.; "Tanyfron" ditto, £6 4s.; cottages from Lord Powis, £4 10s.; gardens, £1; augmentation from Dean and Chapter of St. Asaph £20; together with a glebe house erected in 1830, and nine acres of land attached. Gross income, £300, minus a chief rent of £17 10s. to Lord Powis, net £283.

The church, dedicated in the name of St. John the Baptist, the patron saint of the Knights Hospitallers,<sup>2</sup> is small in size, but to indicate its early character it retains a perpendicular east window, some remains of early frescoes, and fragments of the fine rood screen, which in 1847 was removed from its proper position between the chancel and the nave.<sup>3</sup> In that year "the church was repewed and the pulpit and desk removed, and sundry repairs done to the building; the south and west walls rebuilt, the windows restored, the gables coped with stone, and the whole made in good repair."<sup>4</sup> The fine fresco on the north wall, 29 feet long by 6 feet high, brought to light on this occasion, represents in nine compartments the closing scenes of our Saviour's life on earth, *e. g.* 1. The Last Supper. 2. Washing St. Peter's Feet. 3. The Agony in the Garden. 4. The Arrest. 5. Obliterated. 6. The Mockery. 7. His denial by Peter. 8. A multitude of figures, probably clamouring for His death; and 9. Bearing His Cross. In 1863 a stove was bought by subscription, and in 1864 a flagon and paten were presented by Mr. Gill of Rhiwargor, and altar linen by Miss Gill. The churchyard was enlarged in 1872.

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<sup>1</sup> This and following tenements were purchased with Queen Anne's Bounty, from which grants of £200 each were made in 1743 and 1796; a parliamentary grant of £1,000 in 1825; and another grant of £200 in 1831, to meet an equal benefaction by Lord Clive.

<sup>2</sup> On "Ffridd St. John", *i. e.*, St. John's Hill, are two famous wells, "Ffynnon y Myneich" and "Ffynnon yr Hwch"; and there is a third, "Ffynnon Dwgan", near the site of the old Hospice. Qu., may not this "Dwgan" have been Dwyfan, the patron saint of the mother church at Llanrhaiadr?

<sup>3</sup> Now fronting the gallery.

<sup>4</sup> Note in Vestry Book by Mr. Edward Haycock of Shrewsbury, the architect.

The "national school" was erected about fifty years ago, on land given by the patron, the school having been held before that in the church. In 1860 it was renewed, and in 1868 a master's house was added.<sup>1</sup>

Of the charities, viz. £30 by David Humphreys, 1721; £15 by Ellis Davies, senior; £10 by Ellis Davies, junior; and £5 anon., only £20 now survive; of which £10 belong to the Psalm singers, and £10 to the poor.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES.

1623.—LLOYD, Evan	1766.—EVANS, David
1627.—PRYDDERCH, John	1768.—EVANS, John
1655.—HUMPHREYS, Edward	1770.—HUGHES, Hugh
1665.—JONES, John	1808.—DAVIES, William
1676.—EVANS, Morris	1825.—RICHARDS, John Lloyd
1729.—ELLIS, John	1854.—HUGHES, William, B.D. <sup>2</sup>
1734.—JONES, Henry, B.A.	1859.—HUGHES, Joseph, B.D. <sup>3</sup>
1754.—DAVIES, David, B.A.	

#### VICAR.

1870.—EVANS, Thomas Henry, St. Bees, Deac., 1864; Pr., 1865; C. Llandderfel, 1864; C. Llandegla, 1866; R. Llandegla, 1869; Author of *History of the Parish* in the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, 1873-4.

#### LLANFAIR.

THIS parish comprises the townships of Llanfair, Rhiwhiriaeth, Rhos Aflo, Penttyrch, Llanloddian ucha and Isa, Brynglas, Gwaunynog uchaf and Isaf, Dolged, Brynelen, Cilryrch, Peniarth, Gelligason and Heniarth, embracing an area of 15,180 acres, of the rateable value of £11,327, with 522 inhabited houses and a population of 2,485.

It is evident that originally this parish was an outlying portion of the wide district comprehended under Meifod as the mother church; for in the grant made in 1239 by Bishop Hugh of the several portions of the rectorial tithes of this parish to the nuns of Llanllugan, mention is made of certain rights belonging to the bishop, which are distinctly reserved to him, as rector of Meifod. The words run, and they are interesting as an illustration of the nature and family history of most of our earliest ecclesiastical endowments:—"Noverit universitas vestra nos Caritatis intuitu dedisse et concessisse communi consensu capituli nostri, portiones illas Sancte Marie de Kerey-nion que fuerunt filiorum Sulyen et portionem illam que fuit Moruran filii Moraoc. Excepto hoc quod ad nos pertinet per perigloriet de Meyvot, nec non et residuum ecclesie cum vacaverit in puram et per-

<sup>1</sup> Cost £150: half by National Society, and half by Lord Powis.

<sup>2</sup> P. C. St. David's, Liverpool, 1845-54; R. Caerwys, 1859.

<sup>3</sup> Professor of Welsh, St. David's, Lampeter, 1870.

petuam eleemosynam."<sup>1</sup> This appropriation is not noticed as such in the *Taxatio* of A.D. 1291, where we have "Ecclesia de Lanveyr taxat' rectoria £12, dec. £1 4s.; vicaria, £5, dec. 6s." But we find it in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, 26 Hen. VIII, under Domus Mon'aliu' de Llanllugan thus, "Rectoria de Lanv'y in Decanat' de Kydewyn<sup>2</sup> Val in vii<sup>xx</sup> bz farine avenar<sup>3</sup> vij*l*i. in lana 8s. 4*d*.; agnis 14s. et oblacion 5s. ad fest Pasche coibs annis 35s. 4*d*."; whilst the vicarage is returned under its proper deanery, "Vicaria de Llanvaire valet clare coibs annis per scrutineum et examinacionem commissionar' £10 inde decima £1." On the dissolution of Llanllugan Nunnery these tithes were appropriated and descended in two moieties, by inheritance and purchase, to Sir William Williams and Mr. Myddelton of Chirk Castle, in 1738; and in 1800 they were held respectively by Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn, Bart., and by Mr. Myddelton and Mr. Humphreys of Llwyn. Of these moieties, the one held by Sir W. W. Wynn, commuted at £275 : 7 : 6, has been given up by him for the endowment respectively of Llwydiarth, £130 2s., and of Rhosymedre, £144 16s. The other moiety, £275 : 7 : 6, is now held by Mr. J. M. E. Jones. The vicarial tithes were commuted at £314 5s., and arise from the townships of Peniarth, Gelligason, and Heniarth.<sup>4</sup> A benefaction of £200 by the Rev. Dr. Millington was met by an equal grant from Queen Anne's Bounty in 1738, and the whole invested in 1742 in the purchase of Graig Wen Farm, which, with allotment, contains 93 acres. There is also a house, rebuilt first about the year 1750, and again in 1800, with 14 acres of glebe. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin on the festival of her Assumption, was rebuilt in 1868, with the exception of the curious old wooden steeple which still remains, and is characteristic of the older Montgomeryshire churches. The form of the old church was a long undivided chancel and nave with a north aisle to the chancel and part of the nave; a western belfry in two stories, and a south porch, the doorway of which is retained in the new building, with its capitals of early decorated work. The new church, consecrated on Tuesday, August 11, 1868, has followed very closely the old ground plan, and has retained the old steeple, south door, and open oak roof for the chancel and nave, that of the aisle and vestry at its east end being new. The chancel, divided into sacrarium and choir, has the former floored with Maw's encaustic tiles and a reredos of majolica and other tiles, and is divided from the nave by a low stone screen. A sedile has been formed by the deepening of the south chancel window, and near it lies the recumbent effigy of a knight in chain armour with his tilting helmet, camaille, chevron on jupon, and along his belt the inscription "Hic jacet Davit AP(MO)RVR AIV. . . . The pulpit adjoins

<sup>1</sup> B. Willis, ii, p. 21, Append. III.

<sup>2</sup> Sic. It should have been "decanatus de Pola et Carynyon."

<sup>3</sup> Seven score bushels of oatmeal.

<sup>4</sup> The parish clerk has also a tithe rent-charge of £15.



the south wall and has inlaid marble panels, and near it are two stained windows, the one of a diaper pattern, the gift of Mr. Edwin Hilton, the other representing the Twelve Apostles, each with his accredited section of the creed, put up by the parishioners, "In memory of the Rev. Enoch Pugh, B.D., late vicar of the parish, who died June 18, 1868." The font is a massive octagonal one on a circular base. A monumental tablet to one David Davies, who died at Cheltenham in 1790, has the quaint record that "he left by his will £20 to the poor of this parish, and directed that sixpence should be given to every poor person attending his funeral, at which 1,030 were present and received 6*d.* each." The plans of the new church were prepared by Mr. Edward Haycock, jun., of Shrewsbury, and the cost about £1,900, exclusive of special gifts, as communion plate by Mrs. Greves, carved altar chair by Mr. Hilton, service books by Mrs. Hilton and family, and altar cloth by Mrs. Jenkins.

Browne Willis states that "there was formerly a chapel in the township of Cilrych or Trehudan in this parish." There is no tradition of one in Cilrych, which is in this parish; but very likely there was one in Trehudan, in Castle Caereinion, where the Nunnery of Llanllugan had some property.<sup>1</sup> A grant has this year been made by the Diocesan Church Extension Society, in order to provide divine service in Rhosaflo township.

The National School was erected in 1851 at a cost of £350. 40*s.* a year was charged on Derwdeg by William and Mary Edwards and Elizabeth Davies in 1685 for the gratuitous education of poor children. The interest also of £50<sup>2</sup> was left by Evan James of Gelligason in 1687 for apprenticing poor children. There is also a legacy of 20*s.* a year for the same purpose charged by Mr. Morris Price Griffiths upon Frongoch in Llanfihangel.

## VICARS.

1537.—TREVOR, Edward <sup>3</sup>	1617.—HUGHES, John, A.M. <sup>7</sup>
1540.—TREVOR, John <sup>4</sup>	1620.—JONES, William
1561.—SALUSBURY, Thomas	1621.—HUGHES, John
1583.—PIERS, John <sup>5</sup>	1636.—JONES, Richard, A.M.
1592.—BROWN, Richard	1669.—EYTON, David
1593.—DAVIES, Hugh <sup>6</sup>	1690.—HALL, Piers
1594.—JONES, Jeffrey	1705.—JONES, Thomas, D.D. <sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Cwm Baw" probably represents their tenement in "Bowden".

<sup>2</sup> Now in the Montgomeryshire Turnpike Trust, third district.

<sup>3</sup> Son of Edward Trevor, Constable of Oswestry.

<sup>4</sup> Canon of Bangor.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llangynog, 1592; R. Llanycil, 1615.

<sup>6</sup> V. Llanfor, 1568; R. Llanerfyl, 1571; S. R. Pennant, 1577; V. Welshpool, 1579.

<sup>7</sup> R. Llanddoget, 1605; R. Llanwrin, 1606; V. Llansantffraid yn Mechain, 1629. Deprived thereof.

<sup>8</sup> Canon of St. Asaph, and V. Bettws yn Rhos, 1702; S. R. Cwm, 1705; V. Abergel, 1716.

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| 1711.—WILLIAMS, Thomas <sup>1</sup>    | 1787.—BAKER, Thomas <sup>4</sup>          |
| 1715.—PRICE, Lewis, A.M. <sup>2</sup>  | 1797.—EVANS, Evan                         |
| 1737.—PRICE, Richard                   | 1800.—LEWIS, Evan                         |
| 1744.—LLOYD, Samuel, B.A. <sup>3</sup> | 1827.—WILLIAMS, Daniel <sup>5</sup>       |
| 1753.—LLOYD, Edward, B.A.              | 1836.—MOULSDALE, T. G., M.A. <sup>6</sup> |
| 1757.—OWENS, Owen, M.A.                | 1856.—PUGH, Enoch, B.D. <sup>7</sup>      |
| 1765.—WYNNE, Thomas                    |   |

1868.—JONES, Edward, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford ; Deac., 1849 ; Pr., 1850 ; C. Flint, 1849-50 ; C. Llanrhaidr and P. C. Llanarmon, M.M., 1850-62 ; V. Nantglyn, 1862-8 ; Editor of *Y Cenhadwr Eglwysig*, 1854.

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### LLANFECHAIN.<sup>8</sup>

BESIDES the four townships of Tre'rllan, Bodynfol, Llysfechain, and Ystymgynnon, comprising an area of 4,463 acres, of the rateable value of £6,261 15s., there formerly belonged to this parish the distant township of Dolwar in Llanfihangel, which was transferred in 1852 to the new district of Dolanog ; and in 1865 a portion of Trellan, 292 a. 1 r. 34 p., was also transferred to Bwlchycibau. Population of the parish, 665.

The *Taxatio* of A.D. 1291 gives the value of "Ecclia de Lannetheyn" as £6, decima 12s.; and the *Valor*, 250 years later, returns it as £10 gross, deductions for synodals, etc., £1 : 4 : 4, net £8 : 15 : 8, tenths 17s. 7d. Neither of these records seem to include the distant Dolwar, which, as so often was the case elsewhere, must have been an outly-

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<sup>1</sup> R. Llanarmon, D. C., 1687 ; V. Bettws Caedewen.

<sup>2</sup> R. Llanerfyl, 1718.

<sup>3</sup> V. Berriew, 1753.

<sup>4</sup> V. Llangernyw, 1779 ; V. Llanbrynmair, 1783.

<sup>5</sup> P. C. Llanllugan, 1827.

<sup>6</sup> P. C. Llanfair Talhaiarn, 1816 ; V. Hope, 1830.

<sup>7</sup> Lampeter. V. Abergwili, 1846. Author of an Assize Sermon, 1866, on *The Duty of Thankfulness*.

<sup>8</sup> Mechain, divided into the commotes of Iscoed and Uwchcoed, was one of the divisions of the ancient principality of Powis ; and the name is evidently connected with that of the two streams by which the parish is watered, the Cain and Brogan,—two names that are also found connected elsewhere ; for "at the famous well of Tubber Quan (Dwfr Can), near Carrick on Suir, the Saints *Quan* and *Brogawn* are understood to appear, towards the end of June, in the shape of fishes, whereupon the waters obtain great powers of healing." (*Cornhill Mag.*, July, 1869.) Compare with this the local folklore about the water spirits reported to hover round the Bryngwyn Pool, which feeds the Brogan, and near the rectory on the Cain.

ing portion of the property of some early benefactor resident in the parish;<sup>1</sup> nor do they note some other features preserved in the early terriers, such as the payment of ten nobles (now £3) by the rector, from the tithes of Llysfechain, to the rector and vicar of Llansantffraid, a payment indicative of a similar connection between these two places; and a modus of one-thirtieth upon the Frith, on the ground of its having been Abbey land.<sup>2</sup> In 1840 the tithes were commuted at £558, exclusive of those of Dolwar, which were given up by the rector in 1852 towards the endowment of Dolanog.

There is a good house, rebuilt in 1851, together with 31 acres of glebe. The patronage has recently passed from the see of St. Asaph to the Bishop of Llandaff.

The church takes its name from St. Garmon, the famous Armorican missionary, who is believed to have travelled this way on his first journey, from whom it was sometimes called "Llanarmon yn Mechain," and whose name is also connected with a mound close by "Twmpath Armon," where he probably won over his first converts, and with the holy well "Ffynnon Armon," whence the baptismal water continued until this century to be carried;<sup>3</sup> but its festival, or wake, was observed on the Sunday after the 12th October. The ground plan is a simple oblong, to which at different times have been added a south porch, a western schoolroom or vestry, recently replaced by one on the north side, and a slender wooden spire surmounting the steeple. There is no marked division into chancel and nave; but the extent of the former is indicated by a priest's door. Some improvements were made by the rector, about the year 1852, at a cost of £100; and in 1859 several further alterations were made at a cost of £416, under the direction of Mr. R. Kyrke Penson. The plain and primitive features of the old building were carefully retained, the western gallery being replaced by a smaller one, and the gable renewed, a rose window inserted, and the belfry spire superadded. The east end is remarkable for having no proper east window, its place being occupied by three narrow but deeply splayed loop-holes, 7 in. by 28 in., set triangularly; in the south wall the piscina still exists, though concealed, and also the stoup for holy water. A two-light window on the north side, representing our Lord as bearing His Cross and as rising from the grave, is a memorial to Capt. Robert M. Bonnor-Maurice, who died at Poonain 1861, æt. 24, to whom also there is a mural tablet erected by his brother officers of the 95th regiment. There is also a heraldic monument to Humphrey Kynaston,

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<sup>1</sup> Bishop Maddox's MS. Book has this further note: "Dolwar pays tithes to this church; but 3s. 4d. to be paid to the R. of Llanfihangel for letting the inhabitants come to this church. See ye composition made between ye 2 rectors, 1546, in Bp. Parker's."

<sup>2</sup> Belonging to Strata Marcella, *i. e.*, Ystrad Marchell.

<sup>3</sup> Walter Davies (Gwallter Mechain), one of the most eminent of her sons, is said to have been the last so baptised.



Esq., of Bryngwyn, 1695; Martha, his wife, 1710; Mary, their daughter, 1725; and Wm. Mostyn, her husband, 1729. The font is of perpendicular character, having quatrefoiled circles with a central rose on its panels. The pulpit is Jacobean, dated 1636, and inscribed with the texts, "Cathedram habet in celo qui corda docet," "Ascendat oratio ut descendat gratia," "Fede my flock." The Communion plate comprises a flagon, "ex dono Oweni Lloyd rectoris, 1691"; a chalice, the gift of Mary Kynaston of Brynwyn (ob. 1725); a paten, "ex dono M. R. 1682"; and a chalice "The cup of Llanfechain." The two bells are dated 1730 and 1736.

The National School was erected in 1832, and is endowed with the interest of £100 bequeathed by Rector Price in 1850.

The other benefactions to the parish comprise—

1. Rentcharge of £2 on Frith by Wm. and Anne Vaughan, 1715.
2. Do. £3 on Tynyllan by John Moody, 1718.
3. Interest of £50 in Mold and Chester T. Trust by Rector Wynne, 1776.
4. Five shares in Vauxhall Bridge, London, by Jos. Ball and Wm. Allen, 1831.
5. Interest of £304 : 13 : 6 Three per Cents. by Rector Price, 1850.
6. Do. £100 by Mrs. Elizabeth Osborne of Glanfrogan, 1871.

#### RECTORS.

.—AP ELLIS, David	1632.—GRIFFITH, George, B.D. <sup>5</sup>
1536.—JONES, Reginald	1633.—FOULKES, Robert, A.M. <sup>6</sup>
1562.—POWELL, Thomas <sup>1</sup>	1634.—OWEN, Richard, D.D. <sup>7</sup>
1590.—LLOYD, William, M.A. <sup>2</sup>	1670.—LLOYD, Owen, M.A.
1601.—OWEN, Cadwaladr, B.D. <sup>3</sup>	1702.—HUMPHREYS, Thomas <sup>8</sup>
1617.—PRICE, Fulk, D.D. <sup>4</sup>	1718.—KYNASTON, Roger, M.A. <sup>9</sup>
1632.—OWEN, Bp. in Commend.	1735.—WYNNE, William, D.D. <sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Archdeacon, 1560; R. Hirnant, 1588.

<sup>2</sup> Canon, 1587; S. R. Llanrhaiadr, 1590-1601; R. Llangynyw, 1616.

<sup>3</sup> Late Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford.

<sup>4</sup> R. Cerrig y drudion, 1597-1614; S. R. Llanbrynmair, 1597-1600; Preb. Llanfair, 1599; R. Whittington, 1605-8; R. Llanferras, 1606-9; V. Gresford, 1609-13; R. Llandrinio, 1613; S. R. Cwm, 1616.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llanymynech, 1633; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1660.

<sup>6</sup> R. Aberhafesp, 1623-7; R. Llanymynech, 1628; V. Meifod, 1628.

<sup>7</sup> Son of Cadwaladr Owen [Rector, 1601-1617], Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford, 1627; V. Eltham, Kent, 1635; R. St. Swithin, London, 1638. Deprived by the Parliamentary Committee. Restored. V. St. Mary's Cray, and Preb. St. Paul's. He published two Sermons, and translated into English the *Satires of Juvenal*.

<sup>8</sup> Canon, 1706.

<sup>9</sup> R. Llanymawddwy, 1709-11; R. Llanfyllin, 1711-18; Canon, 1711.

<sup>10</sup> Of Tower near Mold. Fellow of All Souls', Oxford; V. Llanrhaiadr yn Mochnant, 1733-5; Canon, 1735.

1776.—EDWARDS, Thomas, M.A. 1800.—PRICE, James, M.A.<sup>1</sup>

1851.—WILLIAMS, W. M., M.A.<sup>2</sup>

1872.—JONES, David, M.A., Jes. Coll., Oxford; Hon 4th Math. and B.A. 1858; Deac., 1858; Pr., 1859; Curate of Aberdare, 1858-63; P. C. St. Margaret's, Mountain Ash, 1863-72.

### LLANFIHANGEL YNG NGHWNFA.

THIS parish of "St. Michael's in the Uplands" is so called from "Cwnfa," a place abounding with hills, in order to distinguish it, on the one hand, from Llanfihangel yng Nghentyn, *i. e.*, "St. Michael's in the Lowlands" (Alberbury), and on the other from Llanfihangel yng Ngheri (Kerry), and it comprises, for all civil purposes, the several townships of Garthucha, Llwydiarth, Rhiwlas, Dolwar, Fachwen, Cefnleisiog, Halfen, Farchwel, Cadwnfa, Llaethbwlech, Nantycyndy, and Ffynon Arthur, embracing an area of 9,794 a. 1 r. 7 p., with 167 inhabited houses, and 883 inhabitants. Ecclesiastically, however, portions of the townships of Llaethbwlech, Farchwel and Cadwnfa have been attached to the consolidated district of Pont Robert; portions of Llwydiarth and Fachwen to that of Llwydiarth and the whole of Dolwar, properly a detached township of Llanfechain with its tithes<sup>3</sup> to that of Dolanog, leaving to the motherchurch an area of 6,012a 2r. 33p. and a population of 510.

According to the *Taxatio*, "Ecclia de Lannyhagel taxat' £5, dec. 10s.," and the *Valor* returns it at £6 : 14 : 4 gross, £5 : 15 : 4 net, and 11s. 6½d. tenths. From the Letters Patent of 37 Hen. VIII, granting to Sir Arthur D'Arcy the manor of Talerddig and its appurtenances, being a portion of the property of the dissolved Abbey of Strata Marcella (Ystrad Marchell), it appears that the said manor embraced some portion of this parish, then in the tenure of John ap Howell Vaughan.<sup>4</sup> And from the celebrated "case of the Abbot of Strata Marcella"<sup>5</sup> in the time of Queen Elizabeth, it further appears that by virtue of the said manorial rights, Mr. Owen Vaughan claimed for himself certain liberties and franchises herein; but the verdict was given against him.<sup>6</sup> The Commutation returns give the following items which throw some light on the early parochial history, viz:—

<sup>1</sup> Never resided during the fifty years he held the living.

<sup>2</sup> Baliol College, Oxford. P. C. Flint, 1825; R. Halkin, 1840. Resigned 1872, under the Clergy Resignation Act. Author of a "Historical and Topographical Sketch" of the parish in *Montgomeryshire Collections*, 1872, to which I am indebted for much of the information in this notice.

<sup>3</sup> "Dolwar pays tithes to this church; but 3s. 4d. to be paid to the R'r of Llanvyhangel for letting the inhabitants come to this church. See ye composition made between ye 2 R's, 1546, in Bp. Parker's."—Z., *sub* Llanfechain.

<sup>4</sup> *Mont. Coll.*, 1873, p. 363.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.* 1869, p. 115.

<sup>6</sup> "The demesne of Lydiart claims a modus of 2s. 6d., but never rendered or rec'd by any R'r. 1730."—Z.

£480 to the rector in lieu of tithes.

£16 10s. to the rector of Llansantffraid, arising out of the township of Llaethbwlch.

£7 to vicar of ditto, ditto.

£5 to rector of Llanfyllin out of Llwynhir and Pentre farms.

£10 10s. to parish clerk.

From the above sums, however, there have been assigned as follows towards the endowment of the new ecclesiastical districts, viz., to Pont Robert the £23 10s. from Llaethbwlch, and to Llwydiarth, £78 10s., together with the £5 from Llwynhir. The rector's income has thereby been reduced to £401 10s. per annum, besides the house and one acre of glebe. The patronage which formerly belonged to the bishop of the diocese passed by the late transfer in 1861 to the Lord Chancellor.

The church, St. Michael's, was rebuilt in 1862-3, and formally opened for divine service August 16th, 1864. The ground plan comprises chancel and nave, a narrow portion of the west end being walled off for the several uses of a vestry and a support to the belfry turret, as well as for dryness and warmth; the style is Early English, from the designs of Mr. B. Lay, and the cost £1,081 : 7 : 2.<sup>1</sup> The east window of three lights was presented by two brothers,<sup>2</sup> natives of this parish, in memory of their mother, and represents the Adoration of the Shepherds, the Crucifixion and the Resurrection.

The old church, taken down in 1862, consisted of a very early nave, the west end being partitioned off under the belfry, a south porch, and a broader chancel, which had been rebuilt about the year 1722, on which occasion an ancient sepulchral slab, ornamented with a cross raguly and a sword, was inserted in the sill of the south window, and others of rich design used up as jambs; these have now been placed for preservation in the interior wall of the vestry. A small portion of the ancient screen of very graceful character has also been preserved. A curious old canopied pew, set up within the chancel in 1577, and having its panels enriched with upwards of thirty shields of the armorial bearings of the Vaughans of Llwydiarth, was on the rebuilding of the church removed to Wynnstay, at the desire of Sir W. Wynn, the representative of that family.

The school-house was built in 1828 at a cost of £217, and has an endowment of £16 per annum, besides clothing for about twelve children, being a portion of the bequest of Mrs. Mary Vaughan, widow of Edward Vaughan, Esq., of Llwydiarth, for endowing schools here and at Llanfyllin, charged on the Llwydiarth estate; and a sum of £1 12s., being the interest of £40, the overplus of a rate raised in 1828 towards the erection of the school.

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<sup>1</sup> Chief subscriptions, Sir W. W. Wynn, £150 and stones; Diocesan Church Building Society, £150; church rate, £100; Rev. E. Evans, rector, cartage and deficit, £209 : 12 : 7; Bishop Carey's Fund, £70; Bishop Short, £60; Rev. Robt. Williams, rector of Llanfyllin, £50; Earl of Powis, £25, etc.

<sup>2</sup> William Jones (Gwrgant) and J. Evans Jones.



The other charities<sup>1</sup> comprise—

1. *Apprenticing Fund*.—£2 per annum interest of £50 at 4 per cent., £20 by Rev. Fr. Griffiths, 1684; £30 by Dav. Griff. Williams of Halven in 1690.

£10 per annum interest of £200 at 5 per cent., Mrs. Mary Strangeways.

2. *Whitebread*.—£2 8s. per annum interest of £60 at £4 per cent. £20 by Dd. Vaughan, 1705; £20 by Watkin Evans; £20 by Thos. Ffoulkes, 1786.

3. *Easter Distribution*.—£1 4s. per annum interest of £30 at £4 per cent., £20 by Dav. Humphreys, 1722; £10 by Rev. Rd. Lloyd.

4. *St. Thomas's Day*.—16s. interest of £20 at £4 per cent. by Joseph Ellis and David Ellis.

£10 interest of £200 at £5 per cent. by Mrs. Mary Strangeways.

#### RECTORS.

1537.—MARC AP GRUFFYTH	1717.—HUMPHREYS, John, A.M.
1547.—THOMAS AP RICHARD	1723.—LLOYD, Richard, A.M. <sup>5</sup>
1588.—BYNNER, Oliver	1736.—WYNNE, John, A.M. <sup>6</sup>
1629.—EDWARDS, William <sup>2</sup>	1737.—HUMPHREYS, Evan, B.A.
1661.—VAUGHAN, John, A.M.	1780.—LLOYD, John
1667.—GRIFFITHS, Francis, A.M.	1819.—HAMER, James
1680.—FFOULKES, William, A.M. <sup>3</sup>	1829.—PUGHE, Richard, M.A.
1691.—EDWARDS, John, A.M. <sup>4</sup>	1858.—WYNNE EDWARDS, Robt.,
1711.—FFOULKES, David	M.A. <sup>7</sup>
1860.—EVANS, Edward, B.A., Jesus College, Oxford, Hon. 4th Litt. Hum. 1836; Deac., 1837; Pr., 1838; Curate of Manafon, 1837; P. C. Capel Garmon, 1838; V. Llanasa, 1855.	

#### PONT DOLANOG.

"THE Consolidated Chapelry of Pont Dolanog," gazetted Oct. 28, 1856, comprises the township of Dolwar in Llanfihangel 1,429 a. 3 r. 34 p., a portion of Coedtalog in Llanerfyl 866 acres, and of Cynhinfa in Llangynyw 295 acres, and the township of Gwaunynog in Llanfair 1,119 acres; a total of about 3,700 acres, with a population of 337.

The endowment consists of the whole of the tithes of Dolwar township, formerly belonging to the rectory of Llanfechain and commuted

<sup>1</sup> The Strangeway charities are secured on the Llwydiarth estate, the rest on the third district of Montgomeryshire roads.

<sup>2</sup> Deprived by parliamentary sequestrators.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanfyllin, 1661-90; Canon, 1662. Editor of Bishop Griffith's sermons on *Gweddi yr Arglwydd*, 1684.

<sup>4</sup> Fellow of Queen's Coll., Cambridge; S. R. Llansantffraid, 1691; Canon, 1705.

<sup>5</sup> Of Cefn.

<sup>6</sup> V. Llansilin, 1706; R. Llanwrin, 1737.

<sup>7</sup> P. C. Gwersyllt, 1852-8; V. Meifod, 1860; Residentiary Canon, 1868.

at £84 per annum, portions of those of Coedtalog £34 : 4 : 9, and Cynhinfa £36 15s., and a sum of £5 per annum paid by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, total £159 : 19 : 9, with a house built c. 1860, and one acre of glebe. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The church, dedicated in the name of St. John the Evangelist, was consecrated April 12th, 1855, and comprises chancel and nave with vestry at north-east, south porch and western bell gable. The style is early English ; the windows lancets, that of the chancel a triplet ; roof and seats open, accommodates 190 ; plans by R. Kyrke Penson.

The school was erected in 1872-3, on a site given by the Rev. J. B. M. Williams, at a cost of £150, defrayed by grants from the D. B. E., the Carey Fund, and subscriptions.

Rev. James Price, R. Llanfechain, in 1850 bequeathed £108 Consols. (interest, £3 : 5 : 1) to the poor of Dolwar township.

#### VICARS.

1855.—LEWIS, William, C. Llwydiarth, 1854-9.

1866.—RICHARDS, Edward, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford.

1868.—DAVIES, John, Lampeter ; V. Llanynys, 1874.

1874.—JONES, Richard, King's College, London ; D., 1863 ; Pr., 1865 ; C. Llanyblodwel, 1863-74.

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#### LLWYDIARTH.

“THE Consolidated Chapelry of Llwydiarth” was gazetted May 20th, 1859, and comprises portions of the townships of Llwydiarth and Fachwen in Llanfihangel and the whole of Cowney and chief portion of Cyffin in Llangadfan, with a population of 320.

The endowment consists of the tithes of Fachwen township, £69 : 8 : 4 ; and a sum of £11 17s. out of those of Llwydiarth, transferred by the rector of Llanfihangel ; £5 arising out of Llwynhir by the rector of Llanfyllin ; and £130 2s. from the impropriated rectorial tithes of Llanfair Caereinion by gift of Sir W. W. Wynn. The parsonage house, with 12 acres of land, is the property of Sir W. W. Wynn, who is also patron of the living.

The church, dedicated in the name of St. Mary, and consecrated the 4th October, 1854, comprises chancel and nave, with porch and vestry on south side, and was built at the sole expense of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, the representative of the old family of the Vaughans of Llwydiarth and Glanllyn, the style being early English, from the plans of Mr. Ferrey, F.S.A. The east window, a triple lancet, is filled with stained glass, the gift of the Earl of Powis, the central light being a Grizaille pattern, the others diaper.

The National School, designed by Lloyd Williams and Underwood, and opened July 19th, 1864, is a pretty Gothic building, with free-stone dressings, high pitched roof, and bell cot, and was built by subscription.

## VICARS.

1859.—RICHARDSON, William, M.A., rector of Corwen, 1866.

1866.—OWEN, Edward Vaughan, St. Aidan's, Deac., 1858 ; Pr., 1859 ; Curate of Corwen, 1863.

LLANFYLLIN.<sup>1</sup>

THIS parish proper comprises the twelve townships of Camen, Rhiwnachor, Bodyddon, Bodran, Nanthalan, Globwll, Bodfach, Garthgell, Bachie, Brynelllyn, Rhysgog, and Town, with an area of 7,945 acres, only 5,253 acres being rated at £8,518, with 409 inhabited houses, and a population of 1,934 ; but a small portion of Rhysgog has been detached and transferred to the new ecclesiastical district of Bwlchycibau.

One of the earliest ecclesiastical records, viz. that of the *Taxatio* of A.D. 1291, describes the living as divided into a rectory and a vicarage,<sup>2</sup> the former valued at £4, and because of the rector holding another benefice, taxed to the tenth at 8s. and the latter at £4 : 1 : 8, also subject to 8s. 2d. tenths. But the next great record, the *Valor* of 1535, knows nothing of the division and simply returns it as a rectory of the gross value of £12, with £1 6s. for deductions, leaving a net income of £10 : 13 : 6, tenthed to the king at £1 : 1 : 4½. The Commutation value, as fixed in 1850, is £650,<sup>3</sup> inclusive of a modus of £7 per annum on the Bodfach estate.<sup>4</sup> The rectory house and garden were purchased in 1775 for £400, towards which the squires of Bodfach and Llwyn each contributed £160 ; the remaining £80, or rector's portion, being left a charge thereupon to the Llwyn estate, to which £4 is annually paid. It is in the patronage of the bishop of the diocese.

The church, which is believed to have been founded by Myllin, a saint of the seventh century, whose well still exists, and whose festival fell on June 17th, was rebuilt in 1706 with the aid of a brief and local subscriptions, as is set forth on the panels of the gallery.<sup>5</sup> The ground plan is a parallelogram, with a western tower, which together with the walls is battlemented, the material red brick, and the

<sup>1</sup> A full and interesting history of this parish, by the rector, is printed in the *Montgomeryshire Collections* for 1870, pp. 49-112, to which I am indebted for much detailed information.

<sup>2</sup> Still earlier, however, we have in *Llyfr C6ch*, "*Locacio Vicarie de Llan-vylling vacan' a'o 1275.*"

<sup>3</sup> There was also a rentcharge of £5 upon the farms of Llwynhir and Pentre in Llanfihangel, which has been given up to the vicar of Llwydiarth.

<sup>4</sup> Greenhall Farm and some other lands in Brynelllyn township paid one-thirtieth instead of one-tenth, having formerly belonged to the Abbey of Ystrad Marchell.

<sup>5</sup> The brief produced £730 clear, and the subscriptions included £60 from the Marquis of Powis ; £50 from Edward Vaughan, Esq., Llwydiarth ; £30



style Hanoverian. A good peal of six musical bells, founded by Abraham Rudhall of Gloucester, was set up in 1714, and there is also a clock which chimes the hours and quarters and plays a tune every four hours.<sup>1</sup> The space beneath the gallery was formerly used as a consistory court on the occasion of visitations; it is now used for baptisms, and near the font is an old folio edition of the *Whole Duty of Man*, with the lock and chain by which it was formerly secured to the warden's pew. Great improvements in the internal arrangements have been made from 1857 to 1867; open seats substituted for the old pews, an arcading thrown across the east end to form a chancel, the pulpit and desk removed from the north wall to their proper position, the altar rails renewed, a north chamber added for the organ (purchased in 1854 for £250), and all the east and south windows filled with stained glass. The two east windows, inscribed with the invocations of the Litany, were given by Mr. Dugdale of Llwyn and Mr. J. Lomax of Bodfach in 1857; and two on the south side, representing St. John, given by Mr. J. Pugh, 1859, and St. Paul by Mr. O. Openshaw, 1860; the glass by Clutterbuck. The communion plate includes a chalice, dated 1598-9, a flagon presented in 1700 by Alice, daughter of Lewis Kyffin and widow of Owen Lloyd, rector of Llanfechain, and a paten, the gift of Anne Price, M.D.C.C.

There are two national schools, the one for girls adjoining the church, built in 1826, at a cost of £800; and the other for boys built in 1845 at a cost of £400 to £500, to which in 1852 was added a class-room at a further outlay of £55. They are endowed with—

1. £60 per annum rent of Llaethbwllch, purchased in 1735 for £400, a portion of £1,220, the bequest of Mrs. Vaughan of Llangedwyn, 1720.

2. £61 rentcharge on Llwydiarth estate on account of balance of above, and of £400 by her daughter Hon. Mrs. Strangeways, 1748.<sup>2</sup>

3. £8 10s. rentcharge on Llechweddgarth by Mr. Henry Thomas, 1713. The school premises are held on rents of £1 and £2 respectively for a term of 500 years from Sir W. W. Wynn and the owner of Bodfach.

The other charities comprise—

1. Rent of Penygorphwysfa, 5 a. 1 r. 19 p., bought with consolidated charities,<sup>3</sup> now yielding £12 5s.

2. Interest of £140 by Evan Price, 1717, on 3rd Montgom. T. Trust, £7 10s.

each from Adam Price, Esq., Bodfach; Thomas Owen, Nantymeichiaid; and Rector Edwards; £20 from Sir Joseph Jekyll and Bishop Beveridge, etc.

<sup>1</sup> A new clock was purchased in 1864 at a cost of £148.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Strangeways also gave £1,000, the interest to be divided among clergymen's widows; and £700, the interest thereof for decayed tenants of Llwydiarth and Llangedwyn. See also pp. 759, 760, *sub* Llanfihangel.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Anne Wynne, 1708, gave £10; Lewis Evans of Bodyddon, 1777, £20; Griffith Morris, £5; Charles Edwards, £50.

3. Rentcharge of £6 on Bodyddon by Edw. Lloyd, Esq., of Bersham, 1642.

4. Rentcharge of £1 3s. on Llwyn estate by John Morris of London, a native of the parish.

5. Rent of garden £2 at Waunllys, by ditto.

## RECTORS.

1306.—TOPPAN, Joannes<sup>1</sup>

.—THOMASON, Henry

1530.—LLOYD, Gruffyth<sup>2</sup>

1562.—GRUFFYTH, Thomas

.—AP DAVID, Edward

1571.—DAVIES, Humphrey<sup>3</sup>

1571.—POWEL, David, D.D.<sup>4</sup>

1578.—MORGAN, Wm., A.M.<sup>5</sup>

1601.—SMITH, Andrew, A.M.<sup>6</sup>

1602.—MORGAN, Richard

1614.—BERKELEY, John, D.D.<sup>7</sup>

1625.—MUCKLESTON, Richard<sup>8</sup>

1627.—HANMER, Bp. in Com.

1627.—WILLIAMS, John, A.M.<sup>9</sup>

1631.—OWEN, Bp. in Com.

1661.—FOULKES, William, A.M.<sup>10</sup>

1691.—EDWARDS, John, A.M.<sup>11</sup>

1691.—WYNNE, Robert

1711.—KYNASTON, Roger, A.M.<sup>12</sup>

1718.—RICHARDS, Thomas<sup>13</sup>

1760.—DAVIES, David

1774.—WILLIAMS, Wm., A.M.<sup>14</sup>

1813.—HUGHES, David, M.A.<sup>15</sup>

1850.—WILLIAMS, Robert, M.A., Jes. Coll., Oxon, Hon. 4th class Litt. Hum. and B.A., 1839; Deac., 1840; Pr., 1841; P. C. Gwernaffield, 1840-50; Hon. Canon, 1858; Rural Dean, 1861.

<sup>1</sup> Appointed Canon of St. Asaph and rector of this parish by provision of Pope Clement, dated at Avignon, 35 Edward I. (Fleetwood in Wharton MS. 397.)

<sup>2</sup> R. Gwaunysgor.

<sup>3</sup> Went to Cambridge to study. (B. W.) V. Darowen, 1577.

<sup>4</sup> V. Rhuabon and Preb. Meifod, 1570; Preb. Llanfair, 1575; V. Meifod, 1579; S. R. Llansantffraid, 1588. The learned Welsh scholar and historian (p. 254).

<sup>5</sup> The learned and patriotic translator of the Bible into Welsh. V. Welshpool, 1575; V. Llanrhaidr, 1578; Bishop of Llandaff, 1595; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1601.

<sup>6</sup> Appointed by Lord Keeper Egerton during vacancy of see.

<sup>7</sup> Master of Oswestry School, 1606; V. Llansannan, 1611; R. Newtown, 1613; Canon, 1617; Preb. Llanfair, 1621; S. R. Llandyssil, 1622.

<sup>8</sup> V. Oswestry, 1612-25; V. Llansilin, 1615-25.

<sup>9</sup> V. Machynlleth, 1616-17; S. R. Northop, 1624; R. Llanymynech, 1625-27; V. Llanrhaidr, 1625; Preb. Llannefydd, 1660.

<sup>10</sup> Canon, 1662; R. Llanfihangel, 1680. Edited Bishop Griffith's Sermons on the Lord's Prayer, and wrote the Rhagymadrodd at Y Darllenydd, 1684.

<sup>11</sup> V. Nannerch and Rhuddlan, 1686; R. Newtown, 1688; S. R. Llansantffraid and R. Llanfihangel yng Nghwnfa, 1691; Canon, 1705.

<sup>12</sup> R. Llanymawddwy, 1709; Canon, 1711; R. Llanfechain, 1717.

<sup>13</sup> R. Newtown, 1713; Canon, 1718; S. R. Llansannan, 1720.

<sup>14</sup> R. Newtown, 1794; R. Llangadfan, 1796.

<sup>15</sup> Jesus College, Oxon. Public Examiner, 1810-11; R. Hirnant, 1808. Author of a Visitation Sermon.

LLANGADFAN.<sup>1</sup>

Of the seven townships of this parish, comprising an area of 16,927 acres of rateable value of £3,941 : 12 : 9, and containing 219 inhabited houses, with a population of 997 ; the township of Cowney with the greater portion of Cyffin has been transferred by an Order in Council May 20, 1859, to the new ecclesiastical district of Llwydiarth, and those of Moelfeliarth and Maesllymysten by another Order in Council April 28, 1863, to the parish of Garthbeibio, leaving only to the parish church those of Llangadfan, Blowty, Bryngwaeddan, and the remainder of Cyffin, with a population of 552.

In the *Tugatio*, "Ecclesia de Langadvan tax' rectoria £4 : 3 : 4, dec. 8s. 4d. ; vicaria, £2 : 6 : 8, non decimat' ; some time between this and 1535, the rectory and vicarage were united, for the *Valor* gives it only as a rectory worth £10 : 1 : 8, deductions, 17s. 1d : nett £9 : 4 : 7 ; tenths 18s. 6d. The following year, however, a special commission of four viewed the parsonage of Llangadfan, "and the said men taxed the same to the some of x.li., of the which there goth owtt to the p'sonne beyng a blynd man viij marks (£5 : 6 : 8) and to the byshop of the dyocese of and for synodall, alias lactualls ix. s. ijd. and for pr'e annuall vjs. and for pr'e visytacyon vijs." (instead of 2s. 2d. as before).<sup>2</sup> The value of the tithes by Commutation<sup>3</sup> is £390 to the rector, and £4 to the parish clerk ; but from the former, those of Moelfeliarth £82 : 4 : 2 were transferred by an Order in Council Sept. 9, 1865, to the augmentation of Garthbeibio. The rectory house<sup>4</sup> was built in 1819, and there are 26 acres of glebe. Patron, the bishop.

The church, founded by St. Cadfan,<sup>5</sup> one of the leaders of that band of missionaries who came hither in the sixth century from Armorica commemorates a second foundation or rebuilding on All Saints Day. The latest rebuilding or rather restoration occurred in 1867, and the reopening took place on the 23rd April, 1868. The plan consists of chancel and nave with south porch, a belfry turret at the west end, and a vestry on the north side. The old perpendicular window is retained at the east end, the others being new two light trefoils. One

<sup>1</sup> Two very good accounts of this parish have been published : one in the *Cambrian Register* for 1796, by William Jones, a native of the parish : the other in the *Montgomeryshire Collections* for 1869, by the present Rector.

<sup>2</sup> *Val. Eccles.*, vi, p. xliv, in *Mont. Coll.*, 1869, 335, n.

<sup>3</sup> A modus of 20s. a year was paid by the family of Llwydiarth for a tenement called "Cae Coch". It appears from the commutation that this included the whole of the present Llwydiarth Park and some lands adjoining it, the quantity being 51 a. 3 r. 32 p. The present modus is £1 : 0 : 3.

<sup>4</sup> An earlier house is said to have been burnt down by Vavasor Powell and the Parliamentarians in the time of the Commonwealth.

<sup>5</sup> "Ffynnon Cadfan" has been partially filled up by the new road from Cann Office to the church.



on the north side has been filled with stained glass by Wailles, in memory of the two last rectors Howell, father and son, by Mr. Morgan Jones of Penlan; the subject being the Presentation in the Temple. The communion flagon, weighing 61 oz. 10 dwts., was presented by rector Williames in 1767.

Before the Reformation there appears to have been a small cell at "Cyffin," connected with Ystrad Marchell, placed in charge of their property here and at Cefullys ucha in Llanerfyl. The site is supposed to have been at Cae'r Myneich.<sup>1</sup> Haulfron, Abernodwydd, Cae'nymynydd, and Dol Howell anciently formed a part of the ecclesiastical manor of Talerddig, which belonged to Ystrad Marchell, and is now inherited by Sir W. W. Wynn, through the marriage of one of the Vaughans of Llwydiarth with an heiress of the Purcells of Nantycriba.

The National School, erected in 1830 on a site given by Sir W. Williams-Wynn, was enlarged and improved in 1865.

The charities embrace a sum of £16 (small sums consolidated) secured on Llwydcoed; another £20 left by Evan Morris, 1769, secured on second Montgomeryshire Turnpike Trust, and a third of £104 left by Mrs. Grace Edwards, 1802, secured on same trust.

Three other benefactions, viz. £40 by rector Williames, and £10 each by Evan Evans, 1780, and David Evans, 1797, have been lost through insolvency of borrowers.

## RECTORS.

—AP BEDOW, David	1705.—PRICHARD, Evan <sup>4</sup>
1531.—AP MEREDITH, Richard	1705.—JONES, Thomas
1537.—GWYN, Rice	1717.—WILLIAMS, John, M.A.
1568.—DAVIES, Hugh <sup>2</sup>	1773.—WORTHINGTON, Matt. <sup>5</sup>
1593.—EVANS, Thomas	1796.—WILLIAMS, Wm., A.M. <sup>6</sup>
1621.—JOHNS, William	1813.—HOWELL, Griffith
1660.—FOULKES, J.	1839.—HOWELL, Griffith, B.A. <sup>7</sup>
1685.—FOULKES, J. <sup>3</sup>	

1863.—EDWARDS, Griffith, M.A., Trin. Coll., Dublin; Deac. and Pr., 1843; Cur. Llangollen, 1843-9; P. C. Minera, 1849-63; author of *Sylw ar Gatecism*, 1843; *Prize Poems*, 1846; *Inundation of Can-tre'r Gwaelod*, 1849; *Welsh Sermons*, 1854; *Education in Wales, in Cambrian Journal*, 1865; *Histories of the Parishes of Llangadfan*, 1869; and *Garthbeibio*, 1873, in *Montgom. Collect.*; *The Church in Wales*, in the *Christian Advocate and Review*, 1870; *Our New Church Translation*; editor of *Y Protestant*, 1840-43; *Ceinion Alun*, 1851.

<sup>1</sup> "The Monks' Field" (*Rhyd y bydê*), on the river below, is generally supposed to mean the "Abbot's Ford." The accentuation, however, of the last syllable is noticeable.

<sup>2</sup> R. Llanerfyl, 1571; S. R. Pennant, 1577; V. Pool, 1579; V. Llanfair, 1593.

<sup>3</sup> R. Garthbeibo, 1677-85.

<sup>4</sup> R. Garthbeibo, 1685-1705.

<sup>5</sup> R. Cemmaes, 1769-74. Schoolmaster of Deytheur, 1763.

<sup>6</sup> R. Llanfyllin, 1774-1813; R. Newtown, 1794-6.

<sup>7</sup> Son of preceding.

## LLANGYNOG.

To the townships of Llangynog and Rhiwarth, which formerly constituted this parish, there were added in 1867, on the re-arrangement of Pennant parish, those also of Pengwern, Cwmllech, Llan, Llechweddgarth, and Cablyd. The area has thus been enlarged from 3,223 acres to , and the population from 608 for Llangynog proper to 738.

In the *Taxatio*, under the deanery of Mochnant, we have this church returned at £3 : 6 : 8 free from tenths, and in the *Valor* it is valued at £5 gross, with 11s. 1d. deductions for lactuals, procurations, and visitations, and 8s. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. as tenths to the king. The Commutation returns give £141 to the rector and £2 5s. to the parish clerk. To this an additional rentcharge of £40 : 17 : 2 has been transferred from Pennant in consideration of the increased duty. The rector has a house, which was rebuilt in 1853, and has attached to it 5 acres of glebe. Patron, the bishop.

The church takes its name from Cynog, "the reputed son of Brychan Brycheiniog by Banadlwedd, the daughter of Banadle of Banadla in Powys," who was thus closely connected by birth with the neighbouring parish of Llanrhaiadr, as well as by training with its founder, his fellow pupil under Brychan. The church itself is small and poor, having been rebuilt in the year 1791-92. The festival fell on October 8th.

A school was built by Mr. Evan Jones, who in 1797 bequeathed the interest of £20 towards its support ; and in 1825-7 and 1836-7 it had the benefit of one of the circulating masters under Mrs. Bevan's trust. There is now a school board.

In 1730 a rentcharge of £2 on Tycoch was left by Elizabeth Lloyd for the joint benefit of this parish and Pennant, and there are now also some other charities, amounting to £4 : 10 : 6 per annum transferred to the management of the rector for the benefit of the Pennant portion, for an account of which see under that parish.

## RECTORS.

1537.—MAURICE AP WILLIAM	1614.—LEWIS, J.
1557.—MAURICE AP NICHOLAS <sup>1</sup>	1629.—PRITCHARD, Robert <sup>4</sup>
1563.—WALTER AP RHYS	—PRICE, John <sup>5</sup>
1568.—LLOYD, Jenn	1661.—STANEY, J.
1576.—OWEN, Hugh <sup>2</sup>	1673.—ELLIS, Robert
1577.—AP OWEN, Gruffith	1684.—POWELL, Thomas
1592.—PIERS, John <sup>3</sup>	—JONES, J.

<sup>1</sup> "Sir Maurice ap Nicholas ap Gruffydd."—Hengwrt MSS. 256, fo. 77.

<sup>2</sup> V. Llanfihangel G. M., 1574 ; V. Choral, 1576 ; V. Bettws yn Rhos, 1577 ; S. R. Llanbrynmair, 1587 ; Comportioner of Llansannan, 1597.

<sup>3</sup> V. Llanfair Caereinion, 1583 ; R. Llanycil, 1615.

<sup>4</sup> V. Pennant, 1628.

<sup>5</sup> Deprived.

1720.—JONES, John<sup>1</sup>1782.—JONES, John<sup>5</sup>1744.—LEWIS, Robert, A.M.<sup>2</sup>

1787.—GRIFFITHS, Evan

1747.—SAMUEL, Edward<sup>3</sup>

1813.—JONES, John

1762.—JONES, Thomas<sup>4</sup>1850.—JONES, Richard<sup>6</sup>

1867.—DAVIES, John Lewis, Literate ; Deac., 1862 ; Pr., 1866 ; Curate of Pennant, 1862-7.

## LLANGYNYW.

Of the three original townships of Llangynyw, Mathrafal, and Cynhinfa with an area of 3,971 acres, of the rateable value of £3,971, and a population of 568 ; the last township has been subdivided into Gwaunynog and Cynhinfa, and one portion transferred to Pont Robert, and another to Pont Dolanog, leaving to the parish church a population of 340.

The early notice in the *Taxatio* returns this church as divided into moieties, viz. a rectory and a vicarage, the former of which is charged with tenths, “quod rector est alibi beneficiatus.” The later return of the *Valor* combines the two in the rectory, valued at £5 13s., dec. 11s. 4d. Lastly the Commutation returns assign £494<sup>7</sup> to the rector and £6 to the parish clerk. From the former, however, there have been assigned the sums of £63 5s. to the endowment of Pont Robert and £36 15s. to Dolanog, leaving to the rector £394 per annum, together with 30 acres of glebe, and a house built in 1726, and rebuilt in 1833. The patronage was transferred in 1861 to the Bishop of Llandaff, by whom it was given in exchange in 1862 to the Lord Chancellor.

The church takes its name from its first founder, a disciple of Cattwg Ddoeth towards the end of the fifth century, but kept its wake in memory of a later dedication in the name of All Saints. In recent times it has undergone some changes in 1842 for the increase of its accommodation, and in 1858 a general renewing of the interior. It is entered through a fine old oak porch, and is divided into chancel and nave by a handsome fourteenth century screen. The east window is an early perpendicular of three lights, those on the north and south walls being still earlier foliated lights under a square hooding. The font is octagonal and bears the Tudor flower, and is actually painted black and white. The roof is concealed internally by a plaster

<sup>1</sup> V. Pennant, 1719. Author of *Deg ar hugain o Bregethau*, edited by the Rev. H. Parry, V. Llanasa, and printed at Wrexham.

<sup>2</sup> V. Pennant, 1744 ; Canon, 1760.

<sup>3</sup> V. Pennant, 1747 ; R. Llangar, 1748.

<sup>4</sup> V. Pennant, 1757.

<sup>5</sup> V. Pennant, 1782.

<sup>6</sup> R. Hirnant, 1867.

<sup>7</sup> There was a modus of one-thirtieth on part of the demesne of the old Castle of Mathrafal, belonging to the Earl of Powis.



ceiling, whilst externally its western gable terminates in a pretty little belfry, which is new, as is also the vestry on the north side.

The school was erected in 1833 at a cost of £130, and the school and school house repaired and enlarged in 1870 at a further cost of about £130, borne by Lord Powis.

The charities comprise—

£1 per annum payable on land in Gloucestershire, by Morgan Davies, 1780.

6s. ditto on Plascoch farm, by Margaret Davies.

10s. ditto, Cynhinfa, by Francis Evans, Esq.

£5 ditto, Henllan ucha, by Samuel Home, 1804.

#### RECTORS.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1537.—DAVID AP JENN AP EVAN             | 1746.—HARRIES, Charles, M.A.               |
| 1566.—DAVID AP JENN <sup>1</sup>        | 1751.—TAMBERLAIN, John                     |
| 1574.—JONES, Thomas, B.D. <sup>2</sup>  | 1767.—TAMBERLAIN, H., B.A. <sup>8</sup>    |
| 1616.—LLOYD, William, A.M. <sup>3</sup> | 1790.—WILLIAMS, Hugh, M.A. <sup>9</sup>    |
| 1660.—LLOYD, Thomas, A.M. <sup>4</sup>  | 1792.—OWEN, Edward <sup>10</sup>           |
| 1681.—PRICE, Rhys <sup>5</sup>          | 1794.—OWENS, Owen                          |
| 1690.—MOSTYN, John, A.M. <sup>6</sup>   | 1826.—RICHARDS, Thomas                     |
| 1725.—PRICE, James <sup>7</sup>         | 1856.—JONES, Maurice Merddin <sup>11</sup> |
| 1729.—FFOULKES, Henry                   |  |

1862.—JENKINS, Evan, M.A., Cantuar; Deac., 1822; Pr., 1823; R. Dowlais, 1827-62; Prebendary of St. Nicholas in Llandaff Cath., 1851; Author of *Chartism Unmasked*, 1840; Pamphlets and Sermons, Welsh and English.

#### LLANSANTFFRAID-YN-MECHAIN.<sup>12</sup>

THIS parish, divided by the Vyrnwy into the hundreds of Pool Lower (formerly Mechain Iscoed) and Deuddwr, comprises in the former division the townships of Treflan, Llanerchemrys, Dolwen, Melyniog fawr, Melyniog fach, and Lledrod; and in the latter, Trederwen,

<sup>1</sup> R. Bettws G. Goch, 1562.

<sup>2</sup> V. Llandrillo in Edeirnion, 1594.

<sup>3</sup> Canon. R. Llanfechain and S. R. Llanrhaiadr yn Mochnant, 1599-1601.

<sup>4</sup> R. Bodfari, 1640; V. Berriew, 1643; S. R. Llanbrynmair, 1644.

<sup>5</sup> V. Llanfor, 1665.

<sup>6</sup> R. Llanyceil, 1686; R. Castle Caereinion and Preb. of Meifod, 1688; S. R. Whitford, 1690.

<sup>7</sup> Built the rectory house.

<sup>8</sup> R. Llanaber.

<sup>9</sup> Chaplain to Bishop Bagot. Canon and V. Corwen, 1792; R. Clocaenog, 1796; R. Halkin, 1797.

<sup>10</sup> R. Llanydawddwy, 1770; R. Llanfwrog, 1790. Vide *Cyff Beuno*, p. 75.

<sup>11</sup> V. Pennant, 1836.

<sup>12</sup> "St. Bride's in Mechain." A very full history of this parish, by Thomas Griffiths Jones (Cyffin), is printed in the *Montgomeryshire Collections* for 1871, pp. 75-168.

Trewylan, Collfryn, and Llanerchila, embracing a total area of 6,065 acres, of which 5,791 are rated at £10,228, with 271 inhabited houses and a population of 1,362. From this, however, must be deducted a portion of Llanerchila attached to the ecclesiastical district of Penrhos in 1844, and the township of Lledrod transferred to Bwlchycibau in 1865.

Among the earliest notices we have in the *Taxatio* of A.D. 1291 the rectoria is returned at £8, dec. 16s.; vicaria £4, non dec.; but from an agreement made a few years later by a comporcioner of this parish<sup>1</sup> it is evident that the rectory must have consisted of more portions than one; and with this agrees the circumstance that the tithes continued to be divided into fourths, instead of the more usual thirds, three of which belonged to the rectory and one to the vicarage. The *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, A.D. 1535, returns the rectorial income inclusive of 10s. for glebe land, at £12 : 5 : 6 gross, £11 : 7 : 6 nett, with tenths thereupon to the king £1 : 2 : 9; and the vicarial at £6 gross, £5 : 17 : 4 nett, and 11s. 9d. tenths. Besides these, however, the parochial terriers indicate other sources of income as well as certain prescriptions, which bear witness alike to the great extent and importance of this parish in early times and to certain peculiarities of its endowment. Thus, for instance, Abertanat township in Llanyblodwell parish paid two-thirds tithes to the rector and vicar of this parish, and only one-third to its own vicar; Llysfechain township in Llanfechain paid the rector here £3 (originally ten nobles), and the vicar 12s. 6d. The township of Llaethbwlch in Llanfihangel also paid half its tithes to the rector and vicar, until they were transferred by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1854 towards the endowment of St. John's, Pont Robert; and in like manner Garthbwlch in Llanwddyn paid all its tithes to the rector and vicar, and only Easter dues to the vicar of Llanwddyn, until by the same means they were transferred in 1850 to the augmentation of that vicarage. Again, within the parish itself the demesne of Ffynnant paid a modus of 10s. for the tithe hay; and certain lands in Melyniog fawr, called "Board Lands,"<sup>2</sup> pay two-thirds of their tithes to the Rev. W. C. E. Kynaston as Lord of the Manor of Plas-yn-dinas, and the remaining third to the vicar. These impropriated tithes were valued at the Commutation at £24 15s., whilst those of the vicar were returned at £216 10s., and those of the sinecure rector at £573 16s.<sup>3</sup> From these last, however, the Eccle-

<sup>1</sup> "Convencio inter comporcionarium de Llansantffraid in Mechen et comporcionarium de Castell super firma de Llansantffraid predicta. Dat. in festo Margarete 1306."—*Llyfr Côch*.

<sup>2</sup> "Tir-y-Bwrdd", probably at one time the stipend of the family chaplain, "offeriad teulu"; or else some special appropriation "ad mensam".

<sup>3</sup> There was also a sum of £12 allowed to the parish clerk in lieu of the bell-sheaf, the respective proportions of which are enumerated for the several townships in an old terrier of 1729-30. Of this sum, £3 is paid by the vicar, and £9 by the Commissioners as rectors.

siastical Commissioners have transferred £65 : 9 : 2 to the endowment of Penrhos ; 122 : 14 : 3 to the endowment of Bwlchycibau ; £28 : 19 : 1 to the vicar in lieu of the above charges from Garthbwlch, Llaethbwlch, and Abertanatt ; and again in lieu of an augmentation of £20 made by rector Stratford, 1671-94, to improve the vicarage a further rentcharge, raising the whole to £300 per annum,<sup>1</sup> exclusive of the rectorial glebe of 24 a. 0 r. 17 p. added in 1847, and making the whole 35 a. 1 r. 14 p. It is in the patronage of the bishop of the diocese.

The church, St. Ffraid or Bride, Feb. 12, is very long and narrow, and from its ground plan and features it would seem that to the original nave there was added in the thirteenth century a long and somewhat wider eastern arm, which was divided into chancel and nave by a rood loft and screen until 1727, in which year these were taken down and some of the materials used up in a new north transept and gallery ;<sup>2</sup> a wooden steeple supported by a massive timber framework of the true Montgomeryshire type, and surmounted by a pretty little spire, stands at the west end, and a south-west porch protects the main entrance.<sup>3</sup> The font is circular and plain, and of Norman character ; an ogee-pointed window and the remains of a double piscina in the south wall are of the Decorated period ; and the rood loft must have belonged to the Perpendicular. A long interval brings us to the date of the old bells, 1618,<sup>4</sup> which is quickly followed by alterations in the south windows, 1619,<sup>5</sup> by a new bell in 1718,<sup>6</sup> and the erection of the transept in 1727-9. A brass chandelier was presented in 1808 by Elizabeth Hughes, of Cefn llyfnog, and a new gallery erected in 1830 ; and finally in 1866 the whole fabric was put into a state of thorough repair. The east window of three lights is filled with stained glass of the Crucifixion, and is memorial to Magdalen Perrot, 1860 ; and another on the north side with a medallion picture of the Raising of Lazarus is in memory of Grace Hughes, 1847. The communion plate comprises a paten given by the rector Wynne, 1720, and a chalice by same, 1722, and another paten by Margaret Godolphin, 1733.

The National School was erected in 1824 within the churchyard, and adjoins the north wall of the church. It is endowed with £5 per annum by Mrs. Evans, of Glasgoed, 1847, and with the interest of £150 Consols, bequeathed by Mr. Thos. Lloyd Dickin, 1855.

<sup>1</sup> By a recent arrangement the vicar receives *all* the tithes of the townships near the church instead of *portions* from all of them.

<sup>2</sup> Built by public subscription and a legacy of £40 by Mr. Chas. Edwards, probably of Collfryn.

<sup>3</sup> The priest's door has been closed up ; also a narrow lancet on the north side.

<sup>4</sup> "IHESVS BE OVRE SPEDE, 1618." "GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH, 1618."

<sup>5</sup> Inscription in Latin elegiacs :

"Luce meo sumptu fruitur domus ista, sed Ille,  
Qui est Dominus Domini det mihi luce frui.

"John Edwardes. Anno Domini 1619."

<sup>6</sup> "Peace and good neighbourhood. A. R., 1718."



The other charities comprise—

1. Rentcharge of £1 on the Poor's Meadow, by John Williams of Shrewsbury, 1713.

2. Ditto of £1 6s. on Erw Cae Howel, now "Erw Bara Gwyn," by Edward Whitfield, 1754.

3. Interest of £150 Consols by Miss Sarah Dickin, sister of T. L. D., 1857.

4. Ditto of £100, less duty, by Mrs. Elizabeth Osborne of Glangrogan, 1871.

Lost—1. £2 per annum by Mrs. Jones, 1768, charged on Y Waun, void by Mortmain Act.

2. £100 legacy by Mrs. Griffiths, of Gravel Hill, 1810.

3. £20 ditto, Mrs. Siddons.

#### SINECURE RECTORS.

1537.—CHESNAL, Humphrey<sup>1</sup>

—FAYREWELL, J.<sup>2</sup>

1538.—GALLE, Thomas, B.D.

1556.—VAUGHAN, Hugh<sup>3</sup>

1559.—DAVIES, Richard, D.D.<sup>4</sup>

1564.—JOHNS, Griffith<sup>5</sup>

1585.—BANKS, Thomas, A.M.<sup>6</sup>

1588.—POWELL, David, D.D.<sup>7</sup>

1599.—THELWALL, Herbert

1601.—POWELL, Gabriel, B.D.<sup>8</sup>

1607.—THELWALL, Robert<sup>9</sup>

1617.—PARRY, Gabriel, B.D.<sup>10</sup>

1663.—NICHOLSON, Wm., D.D.<sup>11</sup>

1671.—STRATFORD, N., D.D.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Collated from S. R. Llangwm.

<sup>2</sup> S. R. Llanarmon in Yale, 1538.

<sup>3</sup> Preb. Meliden, 1557. Resigned 1558, on pension of £3:6:8. Died Canon of Bangor, 1560.

<sup>4</sup> Bishop of St. Asaph, 1560; translated to Llandaff, 1561. One of the translators of the first edition of the New Testament into Welsh.

<sup>5</sup> Comptitioner of Llanelidan, 1561.

<sup>6</sup> S. R. Caerwys and Llangwm, 1582-4; S. R. Pennant, 1583-8; Dean of St. Asaph, 1587; S. R. Llandrillo yn Edeirinion, 1600.

<sup>7</sup> The learned Welsh scholar and historian. V. Rhuabon, 1570; R. Llanfyllin, 1571; Preb. Llanfair, 1575. (P. 254.)

<sup>8</sup> Son of Dr. David Powell, and himself a very learned writer of great promise. A list of eleven of his different works is given in *Eminent Welshmen*. He died in 1607, being but little above thirty years of age.

<sup>9</sup> Reinstated on the King's presentation, 1612. (Par. Register.)

<sup>10</sup> Nephew of Bishop Parry. Head Master of Ruthin School, 1607-9; V. Henllan, 1609-13; V. Abergele, 1613; R. Llangynhafal and Precentor of Bangor, 1632.

<sup>11</sup> Born at Stratford, Suffolk, 1591. Chorister of Magdalen College, Oxford; Master of Croydon Free School, 1616; R. Llandilo fawr, dioc. St. David's, 1629; Archdeacon of Brecknock and Canon of St. David's. Sequestered by Parliamentary Committee. Bishop of Gloucester, 1661-71. Author of *Exposition of the Catechism*; *Apology for the Discipline of the Ancient Church*; *Defence of the Church of England*; *Exposition of the Apostles' Creed*; etc. His epitaph, by the learned Bishop Bull, describes him as "Theologus insignis, Episcopus vere primitivus; in concionibus frequens, in scriptis nervosus, legenda scribens et faciens scribenda."

<sup>12</sup> Dean of St. Asaph 1673 (p. 243); Bishop of Chester, 1689.

- 1694.—LLOYD, Griffith, B.D.<sup>1</sup>      1743.—WAKE, William, D.D.<sup>5</sup>  
 1697.—PRICE, Daniel, A.M.<sup>2</sup>      1746.—BOUCHERY, G., A.M.<sup>6</sup>  
 1702.—EDWARDS, John, A.M.<sup>3</sup>      1787.—BEAUCLERK, Hon. H.<sup>7</sup>  
 1711.—RAWSON      1819.—THOROTON, Charles Roos  
 1719.—WYNNE, Robert, D.D.<sup>4</sup>      Lapsed in 1846.

## VICARS.

- 1537.—DAVID AP HO'L      1670.—LLOYD, David, M.A.<sup>13</sup>  
 1560.—NICHOLAS AP HOWEL      1672.—NIGHTINGALE, R., A.M.<sup>14</sup>  
 1566.—LEWIS AP RICHARD      1675.—LLOYD, Lewis<sup>15</sup>  
 1570.—JOHN AP RHYS      1682.—LLOYD, Griffith, M.A.<sup>16</sup>  
 1597.—TANNATT, Griffith      1696.—JONES, Bp. in Com.  
 1599.—EDWARDS, Evan<sup>8</sup>      1705.—REYNOLDS, George  
 1617.—TANNATT, Griffith<sup>9</sup>      1725.—LLOYD, Evan, A.M.<sup>17</sup>  
 1629.—HUGHES, John<sup>10</sup>      1754.—EVANS, Griffith, A.B.<sup>18</sup>  
 1660.—ROBERTS, Edward<sup>11</sup>      1768.—SKYE, John, A.B.<sup>19</sup>  
 1664.—DAVIES, Samuel, M.A.<sup>12</sup>      1770.—WILLIAMS, Edw., A.M.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Vicar, 1682-95; Preb. Llanfair, 1693; Preb. Llandaff. Buried in this church.<sup>5</sup> Epitaph on a brass plate in the wall.

<sup>2</sup> Dean of St. Asaph, 1696. A near relation of Bishop Jones, from whom he obtained this sinecure on an undertaking to pay the expenses of the Bishop's son at the University; whereupon Mr. Edwards took out the King's presentation, and having proved him guilty of simony at the great sessions both at Montgomery and Shrewsbury, carried the verdict against him. Buried in the Cathedral, 1706.

<sup>3</sup> V. Nannerch, 1686-8; R. Newtown, 1688-91; R. Llanfyllin, 1691; R. Llanfihangel, 1691-1711; Canon, 1705-11.

<sup>4</sup> Chancellor of the Diocese and V. Gresford, 1690 (p. 240).

<sup>5</sup> An option of the Archbishop on consecration of Bishop Tanner.

<sup>6</sup> Preb. Meliden, 1746; R. Llanymynech, 1748 (p. 251).

<sup>7</sup> An option of Archbishop Cornwallis, on translation of Bishop Shipley.

<sup>8</sup> R. Llanwyddelan, 1586-99.

<sup>9</sup> R. Llanwyddelan, 1599-1617.

<sup>10</sup> R. Llandoget, 1605; R. Llanwrin, 1606; V. Llanfair Caereinion, 1617. Deprived of this by the parliamentary sequestrators.

<sup>11</sup> V. Llangollen, 1648. Conformed.

<sup>12</sup> V. Guilsfield, 1670; Canon, 1677; Preb. Meliden, 1685.

<sup>13</sup> Canon, 1670; Preb. Faenol, V. Abergele, and R. Llanddulas, 1671. Author of *Church Worthies, State Worthies*, etc. (p. 246).

<sup>14</sup> V. Pennant, 1665-8; V. Llanyblodwel, 1668-72; R. Llanerfyl, 1675.

<sup>15</sup> V. Llanyblodwel, 1672-5.

<sup>16</sup> Also rector, 1694. Built the vicarage house. <sup>17</sup> V. Kinnerley, 1731.

<sup>18</sup> P. C. Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog, 1735.

<sup>19</sup> Master of Oswestry School, 1733; V. Llansilin, 1745-63.

<sup>20</sup> Second Master of Ruthin School, 1748; R. Pfenechtyd, 1752; V. Llanrhaidr yn Mochnant, 1779; R. Mallwyd, 1783; Canon, 1777; Chaplain to Bishop Shipley, and Preb. of York.

1783.—JONES, John, A.M.<sup>1</sup>1805.—NEAVE, Fred. Hervey<sup>2</sup>

1798.—LEACH, Robert

1843.—JONES, John

1846.—HUGHES, Robert Henry Matthews, M.A., Jes. Coll., Oxon ;  
Deac., 1837 ; Pr., 1838 ; R. Gwaunysgor, 1843-6.

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### MEIFOD.

THIS parish embraces the ten townships of Nantymeichiaid, Peniarth, Teirtref,<sup>3</sup> Dyffryn, Main, Cefullyfnog, Ystymcolwyn, Trefnanney, Cil and Cwm, and Trefedrid, comprising an area of 12,614 acres, of the rateable value of £15,239, with 373 inhabited houses, and a population of 1,855. But for ecclesiastical purposes the townships of Cefnullyfnog and Ystymcolwyn, with portions of Nantymeichiaid and Peniarth have been assigned to Bwlchycibau ; portions of Teirtref and Nantymeichiaid to Pont Robert ; and Trefnanney to Penrhos ; leaving to the parish church a population of 1,069.

From very early times this place has been one of great importance, ecclesiastical as well as civil, owing chiefly no doubt to its having been at first the "Summer Residence" (*mai-fod*)<sup>4</sup> and, after the destruction of Pengwern (Shrobbes-bury, *i. e.* Shrewsbury), the permanent abode of the Princes of Powys, whose castle stood at Mathrafal, and whose favourite burial place was the Church of St. Tysilio. This Tysilio was the son of Brochwel Ysgrythrog, Prince of Powys, one of the avengers of the massacre of the monks of Bangor in the beginning of the seventh century, who, although he was not the first missionary or evangelist of these parts, for that honour is claimed for the hermit Gwyddfarch, whose cell is indicated in the name of an adjoining hill called "*Gallt-yr-Ancr*", was yet no doubt the founder of that great ecclesiastical establishment which stood at the head of a vast surrounding district, extending in one direction from the farthest bounds of Llanfair to those of Alberbury, and in another from the Long Mountain to the western limits of Mechain. This same Tysilio was moreover the organiser of the ecclesiastical arrangements of this part of the country and he is believed to have succeeded Asaph in the see of Llanelwy ; and in after times his church became the chief

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<sup>1</sup> R. Knockin, 1761 ; Canon, 1787.

<sup>2</sup> S. R. Angle and R. Walwyn Castle, dioc. St. David's, 1815 ; and V. Southill, dioc. Lincoln, 1816. "The rector and vicar are both absentees, resident in remote parts of England." (*Johne's Essay*, 48.)

<sup>3</sup> "The three townships" formed by the union of Glasgoed, Dolobran, and Bryn y bwa.

<sup>4</sup> Other derivations have been proposed, *e. g.*, 1, the legendary direction of the hermit as to the site of the church,—"*Yma i fod*"; 2, his residence (*Meudwy fod*), and an ingenious attempt to identify it, through *Meudwylan*, with the lost *Mediolanum*.



church of the archdeaconry. To his work here, in addition to the church that bore his name, must be assigned that also of the neighbouring parish of Llandysilio; whilst many a holy well and cross still hand down the memorial of the mission work of himself and others in the outlying portion of this extensive cure.<sup>1</sup> Two notable illustrations of its extent are supplied respectively by the grant of Bishop Hugh to the Nunnery of Llanllugan in 1239, and by an agreement made between the rector of Meifod and the prior (as rector<sup>2</sup>) of Alberbury in 1265. In the former, the bishop, whilst appropriating to the nuns certain portions in the Church of St. Mary of Kereynon, made a special reservation of that portion which belonged to himself as rector of Meifod;<sup>3</sup> and in the latter case not only is Meifod acknowledged as the mother church, but certain tithes, dues, and offerings arising from such distant townships as Braggington, Bausley, Winnington, Middletown, and others are stated to belong to it as such.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Brynygroes and Moel y Sant, in the detached township of Trefedrid, Croes Bluen, Ffynnon Tysilio, etc., besides the *capellæ* of Guilsfield, Pool, and Crew. See also Cynddelw's poem, *Can Tysiliaw*:

“Llann a wnaeth ae lauwaeth loflen  
Llan llygyrn llogant offerenn  
Llan Trallyr tra lliant uydrlenn  
Llan drallanu drallys Dinorbenn  
Llan llydaw gan llytued wohenn  
Llan benguern bennaf daearenn  
Llan bywys baradwys buruen  
Llangamarch llan barch y berchen.”

*Myvyrian Archæology*, ed. 1870, p. 178.

<sup>2</sup> Fulk Fitz Warin III founded the Priory, 1220-30, and bestowed upon it the rectorial tithes.

<sup>3</sup> “Excepto hoc quod ad nos pertinet per Perigloriet’ de Meyvot.”—B. Willis, ii, p. 21.

<sup>4</sup> *Llyfr Côch*, p. 27. This document being both interesting and important, is here given *ipsissimis verbis*, from the transcript: “Ltra Adæ fil Meurie int se et priore’ de Abberbury. A’no d’ni 1265. Sup’ q’da’ contec’o’e int’ Rectores Mat’is ecc’æ de Meyvot et rectore’ ecc’æ de Llanviangell. Inquisic’o f’eta fuit p’ meliores et seniores p’bos viros de Gordowyr cora’ d’no Gruff. fil Wenoynewyn tactis S’scis p’fat’ jur’ jurati et requisiti deposuerunt s’b hac forma, viz. q’d de villa de Hâgyntâ (Bragynton) dimid’ bladi lib’ror’ ho’iu’ ubieunqu’ ha’eant (habitant) p’tinet ad eccl’am de Meyvot, totu’ postea ad ecc’am de Llanfihangel et hoc no’ie servitij, nec contingat q’d aliquis vel aliqui recipiat vel recipiant terr’ sua’ ap’d Kegitva, jus totu’ ip’or’ solvat’ ecc’æ de Meyvot, si vero moriant’ ap’d Bagynton dimidiu’ in o’ib’s eccl’æ de Meyvot, et aliud dimid’ eccl’æ de Llanvihangel. Similit’ villa de Bronroepol et de lib’is ho’ib’s v’re heredit’ de Llanvercheit dimid’ Blad’ ecc’æ de Meyvot et totu’ postea ecc’æ de Llanvihangel. Ite’ de lib’is ho’ib’s de bilissle et de

The collegiate character of the foundation is shown in the *Taxatio* of 1291, where we find it under "Decanatus de Methewn"; "Ecclesia de Meyvot tax' rectoria, £8, dec. 16s.; Portio Madok apud (sic) Lowelyn, 13s. 4d., dec. 1s. 4d. et q'd alibi est b'nficiatus. Porcio Heylyn, £1:6:8, dec. 2s. 8d.; et alibi est b'ficiat'. Vicar' £5:6:8, dec. 10s. 8d." And its extent as a mother church is further indicated in the licence granted in 1380 by Richard II to Bishop Spridlington to unite and annex the chapelries of Pole and Kegitva (Guilsfield) to Meifod and to appropriate the same for ever "in proprios usus".<sup>1</sup> This licence was renewed in 1401 by Henry IV to Bishop Trevor for his lifetime.<sup>2</sup> In this licence it is recited that the pope had, in consideration of letters addressed to him by the king, and of the circumstance that the bishop was unable properly to support the burthens of his see, owing to the serious injuries sustained in the late troubles, *i. e.*, during the rising of Glyndwr, appointed the Bishops of Hereford, Volterra, and Bangor, commissioners to inquire into the matter, with authority to grant the parish church with its chapelries of Pool and Guilsfield in commendam. In another license to the same purport granted by Henry VI to Bishop Lowe in 1439, other circumstances of interest are recorded. First, it supplies an omission in the previous ones to the effect that Bishop Llewelyn ap Madoc (1357-1376) had presumed to unite the churches of Meyvod, Pole, and Guilsfield on his own authority without first seeking the royal license, although they each had their vicarages separately endowed,<sup>3</sup> and that Richard II had asserted his own right to the presentation and had recovered it by default; that Henry now restored to the bishop and his successors the said patronage and advowson; and furthermore that in consideration of the poverty of the see and the manifold injuries it had suffered during the wars of Glyndwr, especially in the ruin of its

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Wen'aton et de Wytild q'i s't de gene' Owyn ap Gruff dimid' blad' cu' obla-c'oibs in Pascha et Natal' et cu' eor' mortuarijs ecc'æ de Meyvot et dimid' bladi predictor' lib'or' ho'iu' cu' o'ibs decimis et obvenco'ibs rusticor' sicut consuetudo et in p'tibs ill' ecc'æ de Llanfihangel. Item villa de Trefnant dimid' bladi libror' ho'iu' de Meyvot et totu' postea ecc'æ de Llanvihangel. It'm de p'inton nichil ecc'æ Meyvot nichill ecc'æ de Meyvot nec de Harore similit'. Item de villa de Tref-p'vet ut melius audierunt in o'ibs ecc'æ de Meyvot et aliud dimid' ecc'æ de Llanvihangel. Item p'ed' viri juraverunt q'd q'em cap'lla fundata fuit et consecrata in terr' de Codor ap Crew ab antiquo temp'e sicut ip'i nunc due're possunt ad memoria'. Se' ab antecessoribus suis audierunt q'd in elecco'e fuit et est fundare Cap'lla ubicunq' volu'nt in terr' de Cordowyr et a rectorib' ecc'æ de Llanvihangel plenu' serviciu' dictæ cap'llæ et ip'i Parochiani ad plenu' solvant decim' ecc'æ de Llanvihangel sicut sup'ius dict' est."

<sup>1</sup> Browne Willis, ii, p. 94.

<sup>2</sup> Rymer, v. 8, p. 222.

<sup>3</sup> "In quibus ecclesiis vicarii sunt et habent (? habitant) et separati et dotati nuper unisset, Licentia regia non obtenta."—B. Willis, ii, p. 45.

manor houses and of the ornaments of its church,<sup>1</sup> he gave the bishop permission to appropriate it to himself, but with the proviso that a certain sufficient sum of money should be annually distributed by him among the poor parishioners.<sup>2</sup> It has been stated that these rectories were appropriated at one time to the Abbey of Ystrad Marchell in Guilsfield; but for this there seems to be no sufficient authority,<sup>3</sup> for in the *Valor*, A.D. 1535, the rectory as well as vicarage are returned under their proper head in each, and not as appropriate to any other establishment. Thus, the rectoria de Myvod is returned at £15 : 14 : 4, dec. 31s. 4d.,<sup>4</sup> and the "Vicaria £15, repris. 21s.; clare £13 19s., dec. £1 : 7 : 11." Soon after this, however, probably on the second foundation of the see of Oxford, A.D. 1546, the king, Henry VIII, appears to have reasserted his authority over it, and to have appropriated it to the endowment of the new "Cathedral Church of Christ in Oxford," to which it still belongs. The commuted value of the tithes, which are equally divided between the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church and the vicar, is given as follows, viz., to the former £597 : 17 : 8, and to the vicar £605 : 3 : 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and £7 10s. to the parish clerk. From these totals, however, there have been transferred to the endowment of Bwlchycibau, £40 per annum by Christ Church, as rectors, and £39 : 12 : 0 $\frac{1}{2}$  by the vicar; to Pont Robert, £56 : 9 : 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  by Christ Church, and £62 : 5 : 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  by the vicar, by whom also £20 per annum had been conveyed in 1844 to Penrhos. The vicarage house, built about 1740, is delightfully situated, and there is a glebe,<sup>5</sup> inclusive of allotment, of 23 acres.<sup>6</sup> Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

Three distinct churches appear to have coexisted formerly within the limits of this extensive churchyard, which encloses about four

<sup>1</sup> "Considerantes exilitatem ecclesie Assavensis per guerras et rebellionem Wallie una cum maneriis suis et singulis ornamentis multipliciter destruetam."—B. Willis, ii, p. 115.

<sup>2</sup> "Proviso semper quod quedam competens summa inter pauperes parochianos earundem ecclesiarum singulis annis per loci illius Ordinarium distribuatur."—Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> This may have arisen from the circumstance that David ap Owen, who, as Bishop of St. Asaph, 1503-13, held it *in commendam*, had been Abbot of Ystrad Marchell previously.

<sup>4</sup> "The sinecure rectory was then held by Dr. Magnus, a great pluralist, Archdeacon of the East Riding and Prebendary of York, 1504; Canon of Windsor, 1520; Master of St. Leonard's, York; and Sinecure Rector of Bedale, Pool, and Guilsfield. Ambassador for Henry VIII into Scotland in 1524; and founder of the Grammar School at his native place, Newark upon Trent."—B. Willis, i, p. 291.

<sup>5</sup> One of the fields is called "Ffynnon Gadfarch", which corresponds well with the "Llangamarch" of Cynddelw's poem.

<sup>6</sup> Besides the vicar's glebe there is also a rectorial glebe of 4 a. 3 r. 37 p., belonging to the Dean and Chapter. The old rectory house stood in a field called "The Moat."



acres, viz., Eglwys Gwyddfarch, Eglwys Tysilio, and Eglwys Fair. Of these—

1. Eglwys Gwyddfarch was probably at first the oratory of that ancient anchorite, a primitive structure of wattled reeds and clay, in which he gathered together his early converts for the service of prayer and praise, until it was superseded by the more substantial and imposing edifice which Tysilio built in the seventh century, and of which it then became a capella. Its site is indicated in an old Terrier, dated 1631, in which it is recorded that "At ye west end ye chyd are certain houses now in tenure of Ric. Whiteboy wch of old did belong to ye church; one of ye houses being ye ch itself which was and is commonly called Eglwys Gwyddfarch and of late years stood as a ch not inhabited, and ye gardens were the chyd wherein many bones were dug up in 1629;"<sup>1</sup> and this is confirmed by an old register relating to the fencing, which assigns to certain messuages in the townships of Glasgoed, Dolobran, and Dyffryn a portion upon the west end, "beginning at the corner of Gwyddfarch churchyard."<sup>2</sup> It was still pointed out in 1701 for "besides the parish church now standing, I myself have seen the ruins of two others."<sup>3</sup>

2. Eglwys Tysilio. The royal lineage, the official prestige, and the personal virtues of Tysilio combined to give the church of his foundation a pre-eminence not only over that of Gwyddfarch, but also over that of later foundation, a pre-eminence still witnessed by the festival day following his dedication, Nov. 8, rather than that of St. Mary. At first, indeed, like other churches of that date, viz., the early part of the seventh century, it may have been constructed simply of wood, though of superior workmanship; and only gradually exchanged its timber construction for that of stone; but in its architecture, its furniture, its services, and its ministrations it must always have excelled its neighbours and contemporaries. Justly, therefore, might Cynddelw, the poet laureate of the twelfth century, when praising the beauties of "Meivod wenn," and extolling the liberality of its arch-deacon, the royal Caradoc, launch forth into raptures on the fairness of its cloisters and spires, its clergy and choir, and jewelled staff.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> MS. Book Z.

<sup>2</sup> *Gwaith Gwallter Mechain*, iii, p. 97, where see a very complete and interesting account of this parish by the Rev. Walter Davies.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>4</sup> "Cân Tyssilyaw" in *Myvyrian Archaeology*, edit. 1870, p. 178:

"Trevret y triseint  
Mwy yndi guesti gwesteivyeint y balchnand  
Noc amrawd amraint  
Ae balchblann rug y balchneint  
Ae balchvur ae balchwyr testeint  
Ae balchuys egluys eglureint  
Ae balchrad ae balchrot trameint  
Ae balchwawr yn awr yn deueint

He dwells too on the royal tombs for which its spacious churchyard was famous—"Guyd vynuuent guydva brenhined;" for here besides the earlier princes of the families of Mervyn and Convyn, were interred at a later period Madoc ap Meredydd, Prince of Powys in 1159, and his eldest son Gruffydd Maelor in 1190.<sup>1</sup>

3. Eglwys Fair, *i. e.* St. Mary's. This church was consecrated according to Brut y Tywysogion in the year 1156. "Yny vlwydyn honno ...y kyssegrwit eglwys veir yn meivot."<sup>2</sup>

Which of these last two churches is more directly represented by the present parish church it is difficult to say, for whilst it has of late been generally assumed to be that of St. Mary's as the latest of the three, in earlier times it was held to be the other, as appears from a note in the handwriting of no less eminent an antiquary than Bishop Tanner, who writes, "Church dd to S. Tysilio (8 Nov.) son to Brockwell Prince of Powys, supporter of ye British churches agt Austin ye monk. Near it are the ruins of anoyr old church called Eglwys Feir, *i. e.*, St. Marie's, and not 100 paces distant within memory stood ye chapel of Gwydvarch."<sup>3</sup> This question has recently acquired a special interest from the discovery of some early Norman arcading in the course of the late restoration. The removal of a marble monument from the chancel to the nave wall immediately opposite the principal entrance, which is on the south side, brought to light a Norman column and arch, the details of which were so very simple, and the courses of stones so small, that Mr. Ferrey, F.S.A., the architect of the restoration, believes them to have belonged to St. Tysilio's Church, as in 1154 the style was much ornamented and the capitals were not of so simple a type.<sup>4</sup> Traces of a similar arcade in the south wall, and the discovery, some forty years ago, of the foundations of a north transept, indicate that these remains belonged to a church cruciform in plan, with double aisles and cloisters.

As the church, which has recently been restored and was reopened on January 17th, 1872, now stands, the Norman arcading is cut off westwards by the tower,<sup>5</sup> which is square, massive, and embattled,

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Ae balchgor heb achor echureint  
 Ae balch offeiryat ae hoffeiryeint  
 A pharaud offeren hoffeint  
 Balch y bagyl baguy eur y hemyeint."

<sup>1</sup> "Gruffydd Maelawr Arglwydd Maelawr, doethaf a haelaf o Bendeigion ei wlad."—*Brut y Tywysogion*, 1870, p. 714.

<sup>2</sup> *Myvyrian Archæology*, 1870, p. 678.

<sup>3</sup> MS. Book Z.

<sup>4</sup> *Montgomeryshire Collections*, 1871, xxiv. To this, however, it may be objected that although it could not have been built *before* such and such a date, it does not follow that it adopted the most recent style of its day, any more than is done with modern church building.

<sup>5</sup> The bells are three in number, dated 1679, 1698, and 1760; the last inscribed,—

"We to the church the living call,  
 And to the grave do summon all."

and is superseded eastwards by the more recent arches of the aisles, those of the south being of early English character, whilst those on the north only date from some forty years back, when that aisle was added to the church. A fine early coffin lid, ornamented at the head with a Greek crucifix within a circle, and a Latin cross below; and around its borders with curious interlacings but no inscription, stands against the south-west wall. Near it is the old octagonal font, but with all its panels sadly defaced, whilst portions of the trellis work of an elaborate screen may be seen on the reredos and the front of the gallery. In the south arcade is a peculiar narrow opening, which may very likely represent the priest door of the old cruciform church, and have been retained when the south aisle was added. The east window of this aisle contains memorial glass by Evans of Shrewsbury to the Rev. Devereux Glynne Mytton, ob. 1857, his wife, ob. 1840, their son, 1844, and his wife, 1836. Stained glass for the chancel window has been promised by Earl Manvers.

The altar cloth was presented by Lady Annora Williams-Wynn, and the reading desk by Mrs. J. B. Williams. The principal subscribers to the general restoration were C. W. W. Wynn, M.P., Earl of Powis, Miss Mytton of Penylan, and Mr. Hayhurst of Ystymcolwyn.

The schoolroom was erected in 1821 by voluntary subscriptions, and enlarged in 1864.

It has an endowment arising from several sources, *e. g.*—

1. Interest £180 from timber and accumulation on Tir y tlodion.
2. Rentcharge on Nantymeichiad by Wm. Pugh, 1714, £3.
3. Interest of £5 by John Thomas, no date, 5s.<sup>1</sup>
4. Portion of benefaction £100 by Wm. Wynn, 1789, £2.

The other charities embrace—

1. Tir y tlodion, 18 acres, by Rev. Rd. Derwas, vicar, 1722.
2. Remainder of rentcharge on Nantymeichiadd, by G. W. Pugh, £6.
3. Rentcharge on Tynyrwtra, by Margaret Cade, 1669, £5 4s.
4. Rentcharge for poor in Pentre Parrog, by Edw. Lloyd, £1 6s.
5. Balance of benefaction by Wm. Wynn, 1789, £3.
6. Rentcharge on Pontyscowryd by Mrs. Bridget Mytton, 1722, £5.
7. Ditto on Glanyrafon for poor of Kil, by Thos. Jones, 15s.

Among the notable wells of this parish must be named

1. Ffynnon y Grofftydd in Teirtref, sulphureous and good for cutaneous diseases.
2. „ y Clawdd Llesg in Trefedrid, hepatic air, scrofula and ulcers.
3. „ Darogan in Teirtref.
4. „ Gallt y Main, whence they retired for their campau to Brynbowliau. Between these two last places stood formerly “Capel Hirbryd,” the chapel of the long fast.

<sup>1</sup> Appropriated to building fund with permission of Charity Commissioners.



Among the more eminent natives may be enumerated CYNDELW, the poet laureate of the twelfth century; DAFYDD MEIFOD, a bard who flourished 1630-1670; HUMPHREY OWEN, D.D., born at Gwaelod, Principal of Jesus College, Oxford, 1763; ROBERT EVAN, parish clerk, bard, see Blodeugerdd.

## PORTIONISTS.

1291.—MADOC AP LLEWELYN .—HEYLYN

1310.—MADOC AP MEREDYDD

## VICARS.

1537.—STANNEY, Robert<sup>1</sup>

[1649.—LEWIS, Stephen]<sup>6</sup>

1540.—EDWARDS, David

1661.—DAVIES, Randolph<sup>7</sup>

1556.—MORRIS, Lewis ap

1697.—DERWAS, Richard<sup>8</sup>

1578.—HUGHES, Bp. in Comm.

1723.—HUMPHREYS, John, M.A.<sup>9</sup>

1579.—POWELL, David, D.D.<sup>2</sup>

1740.—PRYCE, Salisbury, D.D.<sup>10</sup>

1597.—JONES, Thomas

1794.—BROWN, William<sup>11</sup>

1626.—VAUGHAN, Jenkin<sup>3</sup>

1819.—WILLIAMS, Rowland, M.A.<sup>12</sup>

1628.—FOULKS, Robert, A.M.<sup>4</sup>

1836.—WYNNE JONES, Hugh, M.A.

1648.—DAVIES, Randolph<sup>5</sup>

1849.—RICHARDS, Richard<sup>13</sup>

1860.—WYNNE EDWARDS, Robert, M.A., Brazenose Coll., Oxford, 3 cl. Litt. Hum. and B.A., 1846; Deac. and Pr., 1848; P. C. Gwersyllt, 1852-8; R. Llanfihangel yng Nghwnfa, 1858-60; Hon. Canon, 1865; and Chaplain to the Bishop and Canon Residentiary, 1867.

<sup>1</sup> R. Selattyn.

<sup>2</sup> V. Rhuabon, 1570. The first editor, in English, of Caradoc's *History of Wales*, and author of *Annotations on the Itinerary of Giraldus Cambrensis*, etc.

<sup>3</sup> R. Cemmaes, 1662.

<sup>4</sup> R. Aberhafesp, 1623-28; R. Llanymyneich, 1627; R. Llanfechain, 1633.

<sup>5</sup> Deprived by sequestrators. <sup>6</sup> Put in during Commonwealth.

<sup>7</sup> Restored. During his incumbency Quakerism had made a considerable schism in his flock, and to counteract it he published, in 1675, a tract of 237 pages in Welsh, and entitled in English "A Tryall of the Spirits, or a Discovery of False Prophets, and a Caveat to beware of them; or a Short Treatise on 1 John, iv, 1; wherein is discovered, by the light of God's Word expounded by Antiquity, that several Doctrines of the Papists, Presbyterians, Independents, and Quakers, are disagreeable to the Holy Scripture, and carefully to be avoided by every Man that loves his own Soul."

<sup>8</sup> The Derwases were of Penrhos in Llandrinio.

<sup>9</sup> Canon, 1737. Built the vicarage house.

<sup>10</sup> R. Montgomery.

<sup>11</sup> R. Newtown, 1775; Preb. Meifod, 1779; V. Guilsfield, 1794.

<sup>12</sup> R. Halkin and Canon, 1809; R. Ysgeiflog, 1836. Chaplain to Bishops Cleaver and Luxmoore.

<sup>13</sup> R. Caerwys, 1826-49.

BWLCHYCIBAU.<sup>1</sup>

THIS district was consolidated in 1865 out of the parishes of Meifod, Llansantffraid, Llanfechain, and Llanfyllin, and comprises the townships of Cefullyfnog, Ystumcolwyn, and Lledrod, and portions of those of Nantymeichiaid, Peniarth, and Rhysgog; it is about six miles and a-half long by three broad, and has a population of 480. The Order in Council was dated February 4th, 1865, and it was gazetted on the 7th of the same month.

The living is a vicarage in the patronage of the bishop of the diocese, and endowed with £202 : 6 : 3½ per annum, of which sum tithes to the value of £122 : 14 : 3 were transferred by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners from the rectorial tithes of Llansantffraid, and £39 : 12 : 0½ by the vicar of Meifod from his tithes, the remaining £40 being an annual grant (and therefore revocable) by the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford. A vicarage house was added in 1870 at a cost of £1,114 : 17 : 10, the site, between two and three acres of glebe, being the gift of the Earl of Powis.

Christ Church, consecrated Oct. 29, 1863,<sup>2</sup> is an excellent specimen of early English, designed by Sir G. G. Scott, and comprising a nave and an apsidal chancel, with a vestry on the north side, a south porch and a western bell gable, the material being local blue stone with the arches, windows, and dressings of Cefn freestone, and the woodwork of pitch pine. The chancel windows, seven in number, are filled with stained glass by Wailes, in memory of Martin Williams of Bryngwyn, ob. 1856, and of Mary, his widow, ob. 1868, and have for their subjects the Nativity, Transfiguration, Crucifixion and Resurrection of our Lord, His appearance to Mary, His commission to St. Peter, and His Ascension into Heaven.<sup>3</sup> The church porch and aisle are paved with Maw's encaustic tiles.<sup>4</sup> An arch springing from carved corbels divides the chancel and nave; on the north side of which stands the pulpit of Caen stone handsomely carved, and midway between it and the desk is a lectern of green ebony from the West Indies. Three narrow lancets surmounted by a rose window occupy the western wall, and near it stands the font, a small octangular one, presented by Mary

<sup>1</sup> This "Pass of the Acorn Cups," or "The Acorn Pass," at the head of a dingle famed for its oaks, leads into Nantymeichiaid, *i. e.*, "The Swineherds' Dell."

<sup>2</sup> The foundation-stone was laid Nov. 12, 1862.

<sup>3</sup> Two of these were added in 1873 by the substitution of a triplet for the previous lancet at the east end, "in memory of Mary Williams, the gift of her four daughters."

<sup>4</sup> A fire, which resulted from an accumulation of soot, occurred on New Year's Day, 1871, and destroyed some of the chancel-seats, and caused other damage, all of which was completely repaired at a cost of £120 : 19 : 4.

Cornwall Legh. The site was presented by Mrs. Williams of Bryngwyn, and the total cost amounted to £1,542.

The National School was erected in 1855, at a cost of £406 : 12 : 8½.

*Vicar.*—1863.—ROWLANDS, John, M.A., Corpus Christi Coll., Cambridge; Scholar, Classical and Divinity Prizeman; Deac., 1861; Pr., 1862; Curate of Gresford, 1861-3.

### PONT ROBERT.<sup>1</sup>

THIS ecclesiastical parish, consolidated out of the parishes of Meifod, Llangynyw, and Llanfihangel, and gazetted Sept. 13th, 1854, comprises the township of Teirtref and a portion of Nantymeichiaid in Meifod, a portion of Cynhinfa in Llangynyw (the remaining portion having been transferred to Dolanog) and portions of Farchwel, Llaethbwch, and Cadwnfa in Llanfihangel, with a population of 525.

The endowment consists of tithes amounting to £205 : 9 : 11 per annum (viz. £62 : 5 : 3½ from Meifod vicarial, £63 5s. from Llangynyw, £23 10s. from Llaethbwch, and £56 : 9 : 7½ from Meifod rectorial), and a payment of £38 : 16 : 8 from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, to meet the last named grant made by the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford, in 1871. The vicarage house was built in 1863 by subscription, and a grant of £400 from Queen Anne's Bounty, and there are four acres of glebe, the gift of the Earl of Powis. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The Church of St. John the Evangelist is small and plain, erected at a cost of about £800. The site and the painted glass of the east window were presented by the Earl of Powis. The foundation stone was laid by the Countess of Powis, April 23rd, 1852, and it was consecrated August 9th, 1853.

The school was built 1855, at a cost of £400, on a site presented by the Earl of Powis.

*Vicar.*—1853.—JAMES, David Lloyd, St. Bees; Deac., 1851; Pr., 1852; Cur. Castle Caereinion, 1851.

### PENNANT MELANGELL.

THIS parish formerly comprised the townships of Cornorion, Garthgelynen fawr, Garthgelynen fach, Peniarth,<sup>2</sup> Cwmblowty,<sup>2</sup> Pengwern, Cwmillech, Llechweddgarth,<sup>2</sup> Cablyd,<sup>2</sup> and the detached townships of Bryn,<sup>3</sup> situated within the parish of Llanyblodwel, Dwyffrwd in

<sup>1</sup> The full name is Robert ap Oliver, the builder of the bridge some two hundred years ago.

<sup>2</sup> These names are not now found in the Rate-Book.

<sup>3</sup> This formed a portion of the property of Rhirid Flaidd, lord of Penllyn,



Llanwddyn, Ffinffrwd in Hirnant. On the consecration of St. Thomas', Penybont, as the new parish church, a re-arrangement took place, whereby the township of Dwyffrwd with its tithes was transferred to Llanwddyn; Ffinffrwd with its tithes to Hirnant; and Pengwern, Cwmllech, Llan, Llechweddgarth and Cablyd, with a portion of their tithes to Llangynog. Attached to the new parish church, therefore, there now remain the townships of Cornorion, Garthgelynen fawr (including Peniarth) Garthgelynen fach, Cwmblowty and the township of Glanhafon, transferred to it from the parish of Llanrhaiadr. Population 712.

The legend of the foundation of the church describes the secluded but lovely valley in which it stands, as in the first instance the retreat of a beautiful Irish maiden named Melangell or Monacella, who had fled from her father's court rather than be wedded to a noble to whom he had promised her hand, that here she might the better serve "God and the spotless virgin." Here she was discovered in a thicket by Prince Brochwel Ysgythrog on one of his hunting expeditions, for the hare his hounds were pursuing took refuge beneath the folds of her garments, and the prince, with royal grace, assigned to her the spot as a sanctuary for ever.<sup>1</sup> Whereupon it became famous both as a safe asylum for the oppressed and as a nunnery or institution for the training of female devotees. How long it so continued cannot be said, but no notice of it occurs in the *Taxatio*, which simply gives the rectory as worth £10, dec. £1, and the vicarage £4:3:4, tenths 8s. 4d. Nor again in the *Valor*, which returns the rectory as worth in gross £13:1:4, nett £6:16:9, dec. £1:3:8½; and the vicarage at £6:4:8 gross, £5:16:9 nett, whereupon 11s. 7½d. were charged as tenths to the king. Among the items are found portions arising from Bryn,<sup>2</sup> 15s. to the rector and 5s. to the vicar; glebe 4s. and 6s. 8d. respectively; and "Oblaciones ad reliquias," £2:16:8, i. e., offerings at the shrine, probably of Melangell herself, in the small chapel or oratory adjoining the church and still called "Cellybedd" or "Cell of the Grave." In Peniarth and Garthgelynen fawr and fach, a modus of a certain quantity of oats was formerly paid to the rector in lieu of tithe hay, under the significant title of "Ceirch March y Person," oats for the parson's horse. The value and disposition of tithes, according to the Commutation returns, were £300 to the bishop as holder in commendam of the sinecure rectory, £101 15s. to the vicar, and £7 to the parish clerk. Attached to the rectory there had been

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and Pennant Melangell, to whom it passed as the dower of his wife Gwladus, the daughter and heiress of Gwrdendu, lord of Bryn.

<sup>1</sup> *Arch. Camb.*, 1848, p. 139. Many local names correspond with this legend, such as Pengwern, Noddfa, Nant yr Angell, etc.; but its late compilation is self-evident, and it is probable that it took its form and colouring from them.

<sup>2</sup> In this township was anciently a chapel which was said to have been served once a month by the rector of this parish, and on other occasions probably by the vicar of Llanyblodwel.

a farm called "Nant Iewyn," alias "Nantygwern," comprising 26 a. 0 r. 18 p., which was transferred in 1843 to the vicar, who had also £100 a year out of the rectorial tithes, the interest of £426 in Queen Anne's Bounty,<sup>1</sup> and the old vicarage house, which with 17 a. 1 r. 11 p. of glebe was sold in 1866 to Mr. W. J. Beale. On the re-arrangement of the parish the tithe rentcharge of Dwyffrwd amounting to £33 11s. per annum, was transferred to the vicar of Llanwddyn, and a sum of £6 : 17 : 6 to the rector of Hirnant, and in 1867, another rentcharge of £40 : 17 : 2 to the rector of Llangynog. The rector's present income consists of £309 : 9 : 4 in tithes, £25 the rental of Nant Iewyn, £3 5s. ditto of two small fields near the church, £46 proceeds of sale of vicarage and glebe to Mr. Beale, and £20 10s. from the township of Bryn. A new rectory was built in 1860, at Penybont adjoining the new parish church at a cost of £820,<sup>2</sup> and attached to it is a small glebe of 1 a. 2 r. 0 p. The patronage is vested in the bishop of the diocese.

The old parish church, dedicated, according to some MSS., to St. Michael,<sup>3</sup> but according to Rees' *Welsh Saints* more correctly to Melangell the foundress, Festival, May 27, is a long building divided into nave and chancel by a wooden screen, with a strong tower at the west end, two south porches, and the chapel or oratory called "Cell y Bedd," formerly used as a schoolroom, and adjoining the east end of the chancel. The capitals of four small Norman shafts built upside down into the south wall are evidently portions of an earlier edifice worked up into the present one, and the font, which is plain and circular, belongs to a corresponding period. The tower, which is sixteen feet square inside and batters slightly, is capped by a low steeple roof; within it the framework, for supporting the belfry floor and bells, rests on the ground, and is independent of the walls. A narrow round-headed window in the north wall of the nave served to light the space beneath the rood loft; those in the south wall are of larger size and later date. The principal porch has a four centered doorway forming the entrance into the nave, and over the priest's door there is another small porch for the chancel. The principal object of interest within the church is the carved woodwork representing the legend of St. Melangell, now affixed to the front of the west gallery, but originally there can be no doubt forming part of the old rood

<sup>1</sup> Grants of £200 each were made in 1804 and 1815.

<sup>2</sup> The sum of £426, Queen Anne's Bounty, for which interest had hitherto been received, was laid out upon the house. Another sum of £300 was borrowed from the same source, and £53 9s. were subscribed. The site (as well as those of the church and schools) was presented by Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., the remainder of the field being received in exchange for two small quillets in Upper Pennant.

<sup>3</sup> This arose from the reading "Pennant Mihangel" for Pennant Melangell.

loft or screen.<sup>1</sup> The protection afforded by the Saint to the hare on that occasion gained for them subsequently the name of "Wyn Melangell," St. Monacella's lambs, and so strong a superstition used to prevail, that no person would kill a hare in the parish; and it was even firmly believed that if any one cried "God and St. Monacella be with thee" after a hunted hare it would be sure to escape. Within the churchyard lie the mutilated remains of two recumbent effigies: one of them, representing an armed warrior, with the legend "Hic jacet Etwart" on his shield, was said by the common tradition of the place to be that of Iorwerth Drwyndwn, Edward of the Broken Nose, the eldest son of Owen Gwynedd, but superseded in the succession owing to that blemish, and forced to flee to this sanctuary for refuge from the cruelty of his brother, Dafydd ap Owen Gwynedd. Tradition also adds that he was killed not far from hence at a place called Bwlch Croes Iorwerth, the Pass of Edward's Cross. The other is supposed to be that of St. Melangell herself; but is much more likely from its date and character to be that of Gwladus, the wife of Rhirid Flaidd, or even some later lady of that house.

Since the re-construction of the parish only the townships of Pengwern, Cwmillech, Llan, Llechurddgarth, and Cablyd have been left attached to the old church, in which divine service is performed once on each Sunday by the rector of Llangynog, to whose cure it has been practically transferred. The Sunday school is still held in "Cell y Bedd."

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### ST. THOMAS', PENYBONT.

ON the 19th May, 1854, the foundation stone of this church was laid in the more populous and central hamlet of Penybont, in the township of Peniarth, and on the 28th October, 1855, it was consecrated. The ground plan consists of chancel and nave, with a south transept formed by the lower portion of the tower, which is surmounted by a spire. The style is early English, from the designs of Mr. R. Kyrke Penson, who presented the east window, the accommodation 204, and the cost £1,062.<sup>2</sup>

New national schools, with master's house, were also erected in 1859, at a cost of £617.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Minutely described and illustrated in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* for 1848, p. 225 seq.; to which also I am indebted for this account of the church and its antiquities.

<sup>2</sup> Towards this the Diocesan Church Building Society granted £250, and the Incorporated Church Building Society, £100.

<sup>3</sup> The Committee of Council for Education gave £274; National Society, £30, etc.





*The Screen, Pennant Melangell.*



The charities embrace the following benefactions:—

1. Rentcharge of £1 upon Tycoch, by Mrs. Lloyd in 1730.
2. Moiety of rent of Carigdda field in Llanrhaidr, left by Morris Jones of Cwmllech between that parish and this one.
3. Interest of £20 bequest of Robert Evans of Maesaberllech.
4. Do. £20 do. Mr. Henry Thomas of Llechweddgarth.
5. Do. £20 do. Catherine Morris of Cwmllech.
6. Do. £10 do. Catherine Madocks of Llechweddgarth.
7. Do. £30 do. Ellis Jones of Peniarth isa in 1802.

Of the above 1 to 6 now belong to Upper Pennant, and are managed by the rector of Llangynog; the last is laid out at interest (£1 10s.) which is distributed on Easter Monday.

#### SINECURE RECTORS.

.—RICHARD AP HOWEL	1601.—BURCHES, Hugh, A.M. <sup>6</sup>
1506.—JOHN AP HOWEL <sup>1</sup>	1615.—MORGAN, Evan, B.D. <sup>7</sup>
1537.—WYNNE, John, LL.B. <sup>2</sup>	1644.—MORLEY, George, D.D. <sup>8</sup>
1565.—PRICE, Richard, LL.B. <sup>3</sup>	[1653.—ELLIS, Evan] <sup>9</sup>
1577.—DAVIES, Hugh	1660.—HITCHCOCK, R., B.D. <sup>10</sup>
1583.—BANKS, Thomas, A.M. <sup>4</sup>	1675.—ASHTON, W. <sup>11</sup>
1588.—MORGAN, William, D.D. <sup>5</sup>	1678.—DUBOIS, James
1595.—SHARP, Peter, D.D.	1725.—RICHARDS, Thos., A.M. <sup>12</sup>

<sup>1</sup> V. Mold, 1506; V. Llanrwst, 1537; Canon, 1552.

<sup>2</sup> V. Mold, 1537-65.

<sup>3</sup> Comportioner of Llandinam, 1561; R. Llandrinio, 1567; R. Selattyn, 1578.

<sup>4</sup> S. R. Caerwys and Llangwm, 1582-84; S. R. Llansantffraid yn Mechain, 1585-1600; Dean of St. Asaph, 1587.

<sup>5</sup> V. Llanrhaidr yn Mochnant, 1578, where he began his translation of the Old Testament into Welsh, which he published in 1588. The same year he was promoted to the rectory of Llanfyllin and this sinecure. Bishop of Llandaff, 1595; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1601.

<sup>6</sup> R. Llanelian, Anglesey, 1577; R. Llanllechyd, 1578; comportioner of Llandinam, 1581; Canon of Bangor, 1582.

<sup>7</sup> V. Llanrhaidr, 1588-1612; V. Mold, 1612; S. R. Caerwys and comportioner of Llansannan, 1614; R. Denbigh, 1615; Canon, 1616; Preb. Meifod, 1617.

<sup>8</sup> Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, 1641; deprived, 1648; Dean of Christ Church on the Restoration; Bishop of Worcester, 1661, whence he was translated to Winchester, in which Cathedral he lies buried.

<sup>9</sup> Rector and vicar during the Commonwealth time; R. Llangwm, 1664.

<sup>10</sup> Preb. Lincoln, and beneficed in Buckinghamshire.

<sup>11</sup> R. Beckenham in Kent; Fellow of Brazenose College, Oxford, and chaplain to the Duke of Ormond; R. St. Antholin, London, and Preb. Knaresborough in York Cathedral. He published twenty-five controversial pieces against the Papists and Dissenters, and some practical and devotional tracts. His Life was published by Mr. T. Watts in 1714.

<sup>12</sup> R. Llanfyllin and Canon, 1718; comportioner of Llansannan, 1720.



1760.—MURRAY, Gideon, A.M.<sup>1</sup> 1778.—STURGES, J. W., D.D.<sup>2</sup>  
Bishops of St. Asaph in Commendam until 1856.

## VICARS.

1537.—VAUGHAN, J. <sup>3</sup>	1687.—DAVIES, David
1556.—LLOYD, Richard	1719.—JONES, John <sup>9</sup>
1557.—JOHNS, William <sup>4</sup>	1744.—LEWIS, Robert, A.M. <sup>10</sup>
1575.—LLOYD, Robert	1747.—SAMUEL, Edward <sup>11</sup>
—RICHARDS, J. <sup>5</sup>	1749.—WILLIAMS, T., B.A. <sup>12</sup>
1590.—AB JENN or EVAN, Robert	1757.—JONES, Thomas <sup>13</sup>
1622.—MORGAN, Henry	1782.—JONES, John
1628.—PRICHARD, Robert	1788.—HAMER, Ezekiel <sup>14</sup>
[1653.—ELLIS, Evan] <sup>6</sup>	1813.—HASSALL, Samuel
1664.—ROBERTS, Cadwalader <sup>7</sup>	1826.—EVANS, Evan, B.A. <sup>15</sup>
1665.—NIGHTINGALE, Robert <sup>8</sup>	1831.—DAVIES, Morgan, M.A. <sup>16</sup>
1668.—MORRIS, Richard	1836.—JONES, Maurice M. <sup>17</sup>

*Rector.*—1856.—ROWLAND, Thomas, Deac., 1852; Pr., 1853. Formerly Curate of Rhosygwalia; Llansantffraid Glyn Dyfrdwy; and Llanrust. Author of *A Grammar of the Welsh Language*, 1st ed., 1853; 2nd ed., 1857; 3rd ed., 1865; *Exercises, Welsh and English*, adapted to the Grammar, 1870; *Cypol o Breyethan*, 1873.

<sup>1</sup> S. R. Darowen, 1751.

<sup>2</sup> Chaplain to His Majesty, and Chancellor and Prebendary of Winchester. He published, *inter alia*, *Discourses upon Natural and Revealed Religion*, 8vo; *Considerations upon the State of the Church Establishment*; *Reflections upon the Principles and Institution of Popery*.

<sup>3</sup> S. R. Llandyssil.

<sup>4</sup> V. Kinnerley, 1556.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llanelian, 1589.

<sup>6</sup> See rectors.

<sup>7</sup> V. Llangwm, 1666.

<sup>8</sup> V. Llanyblodwel, 1668; V. Llansantffraid yn Mechain, 1672; R. Llanervyl, 1675.

<sup>9</sup> R. Llangynog, 1720. A volume of Sermons by him was edited by the Rev. Henry Parry, vicar of Llanasa.

<sup>10</sup> R. Llangynog, 1744; R. Nannerch, 1746; V. Corwen, 1747; V. Mold, 1749; Canon, 1760.

<sup>11</sup> R. Llangar, 1748. Son of the translator of Grotius, *De Veritate*.

<sup>12</sup> Master of the Grammar School, Wrexham.

<sup>13</sup> R. Llangynog, 1762.

<sup>14</sup> R. Hirnant, 1813.

<sup>15</sup> V. Llanarmon yn Ial, 1831; V. Bettws in Rhos, 1851.

<sup>16</sup> R. Penegos, 1836; R. Caerwys, 1849; R. Llanrwst, 1852; Hon. Canon, 1854; Residentiary Canon, 1861.

<sup>17</sup> R. Llangynyw, 1856.

WELSH POOL.<sup>1</sup>

THE three divisions into which, in the last century, this parish was subdivided, comprise respectively these townships—

	A.	R.	P.	Pop.
<i>Upper</i> ,—Disserth, Stredalfedan, Trallwm-gollen, and Tyddyn Pridd . . . . .	3557	3	14	613
<i>Middle</i> ,—Pool Town . . . . .	70	0	0	2504
<i>Lower</i> ,—Gungrog Fawr, Llanerchudol, Trefnant fechan, and Welsh Town . . . . .	2637	3	14	1710
Detached township of Cyfronydd . . . . .	607	2	6	58
Gungrog Fechan added from Guilsfield 448 1 33 } Gungrog Fawr, part to Pool Quay . 275 1 32 }	173	0	1	216
	7046	0	35	5101

Ecclesiastically this parish has been from remotest times connected with Meifod, as one of its daughter churches, a circumstance sufficiently indicative of the relative importance of the two places when a parochial establishment was first formed,<sup>2</sup> though singularly enough Gwyddvarch, the founder of the first church in Meifod is represented as having come from hence. The probable absorption of the early religious house of Trallwm or Pole<sup>3</sup> in the new foundation of Ystrad Marchell may have given that abbey a claim which we see put forth in the letter of Bishop Anian of St. Asaph to the Bishop of Hereford in 1272.<sup>4</sup> But this seems to have been of very brief continuance ;

<sup>1</sup> So called to distinguish it from the English Pool in Dorsetshire. But whether this Pool be a translation of “Llyn,” and “llyn” a component part of the Welsh name now written “Trallwng,” or a modified form of a totally different word, “Pola” or “Pol” (as in Bronroc-pol, Pol-anneys, etc.), it is difficult to decide. But I would suggest the latter view, as we have both names, Pol and Trallwm, under different forms, still in existence for neighbouring, and not simply for the same, places. This view, however, receives a curious confirmation from the circumstance that for S. Gwyddvarch, the founder of Meifod, two pedigrees are given,—one making him the son of Amalarus, Prince of *Pwyl* ; the other, the son of S. Llywelyn of *Trallwng*.

<sup>2</sup> “Tissiliau teyrned nenbrenn  
Llan a wnaeth ae lanvaeth loflen  
Llan Ugyryn llogant offeren [hodie Llanllugan.]  
Llan Trallyr tra thant uydrlenn [hod. Welshpool.]  
Llan drallann drallys Dinorbenn.”

*Can Tyssiliaw.*

<sup>3</sup> Founded, according to Rees, by Llewelyn, father of S. Gwyddvarch.

<sup>4</sup> “L’te directe per Anianum Ep’um dat’ 1272 Jo. Ep’o Hereff’ rogantes quat’us mandet Priori de Chyrbury sue diocesis quod restituat R. Pole Bet-tws et Aberrhiw villul’ de Kilkewyd quam prius tenebat.”—*Llyfr Côch*, 21b.

for in 1289 we find that it had its own rector and vicar. For John (son of Griffin ap Wenwynwyn), rector of Pole, and Griffin the vicar thereof, and Philip de Orreby, rector of Worthin, submitted to the arbitration of Bishop Swinfield their disputes about the tithes of "four vills in the country of Gordwr, viz., Botinton, Hope, Leghton, and Wlstane's Mynde," all of which were acknowledged by the disputants to be in Hereford diocese;<sup>1</sup> but over which the rector of Pole appears to have claimed some sort of territorial right.<sup>2</sup> And again, in the *Taxatio* of 1291 no indication occurs of any appropriation, for the return is "Ecclesia de Pola taxat' rectoria £8 : 13 : 4, dec. 17s. 4d., vicaria, £3 : 6 : 8, non dec." The earlier connection, however, between this church and Meifod seems to have been reasserted,<sup>3</sup> for in 1380 Bishop Spridlington of St. Asaph obtained a license from the king, Richard II, to annex the chapelries to the mother church, and appropriate the same to his own uses. Again, in 1401, in consideration of the damages done to the see in the recent wars with Glyndwr, Henry IV renewed the license to Bishop Trevor. And once more, in 1439, Henry VI did the same for Bishop Lowe, but with the proviso that a competent sum of money should be distributed annually by the bishop among the poor of the respective parishes.<sup>4</sup> These licenses were evidently personal and not made to the see indefinitely, for at the time of the reformation these livings do not appear to have been so appropriated. Thus the king's book, or *Valor Eccles.* Hen. VIII, simply records "Rectoria de Pole valet clare co'bs annis £30 inde pro xma pte dno regi debit' £3, vicaria de Pole £13 : 13 : 4, repris 8s. 2d.; clare £13 : 5 : 2, inde pro xma pte £1 : 6 : 6½." The rectory, at this time in conjunction with those of Meifod and Guilsfield, was enjoyed by Dr. Magnus, "who became so much noted to the king that he was by him not only promoted to several dignities, but sent ambassador into various countries."<sup>5</sup> After his death or resignation Henry VIII assigned them to the endowment of his new college of Christ Church, and in the 38th of his reign, A.D. 1547, we find among the "lands gevine by his matie to his new colledge in Oxford the parsonage of Pole xxx.li."<sup>6</sup> The Commuted returns<sup>7</sup> give the present valuation for

<sup>1</sup> Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*, xi, 103, in *Montgomeryshire Collections*, 1872, p. 123.

<sup>2</sup> See Buttington, p. 727.

<sup>3</sup> An undated entry in *Llyfr Côch* probably refers to some such occasion, and to this church: "Petitiones quedam Abbatis et Conventus de Stratmarchell de jure quarundam ecclesiarum dioc. Assavens." (51 B.)

<sup>4</sup> See more fully under Meifod.

<sup>5</sup> "Among the dignities were the archdeaconry of the East Riding, the sacristship of York Cathedral, the mastership of St. Leonard's, York, and a canonry at Windsor; and among the embassies was one into Scotland in 1524."—B. Willis, i, p. 291.

<sup>6</sup> *Montgomeryshire Collections*, 1872, p. 126.

<sup>7</sup> Ancient moduses were,—for abbey lands, no predial but only personal



	Vicar.			Dean & Ch., Ch. Ch., Oxon.			Par. Clerk.			
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Pool, Lower Division	89	2	0	...	252	0	4	1	0	
Pool, Upper and Middle	65	0	0	...	189	10	3	12	0	
Cyfronydd	11	10	0	...	34	10				
	£165	12	0		£476	0		£7	13	0

To the vicarial tithes have to be added those also of Buttington, formerly a chapelry of this parish, commuted at £106 10s., and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have given an annual grant of £48. The vicarage house was erected in 1820 at a cost of £1,000, and subsequently considerably enlarged. It stands on six acres of glebe to the south of the church. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The church is said to have been founded in the latter end of the sixth century by Cynvelyn, the brother of Llewelyn, the founder of the religious house at Trallwng, and the father of Gwyddvarch, which we may perhaps interpret as indicating that, although ecclesiastically Meifod was the mother church, the founder of Meifod had been trained in and sent forth from the older foundation here. And it is to be observed that the festival or wake day, Nov. 8th, belongs not to the later dedication to St. Mary, but is the same as that of Meifod and the other daughter church of Guilsfield. The present structure appears to date from the thirteenth century,<sup>1</sup> and to have comprised a chancel and nave with its south aisle, corresponding to the present chancel and nave, with a tower at its west end. In the next century a south porch was added and new windows inserted in the chancel. The nave arcade seems to indicate that the next alteration must have been the throwing of the old south aisle into the enlarged nave and the addition of a north and a new south aisle, towards the end of the fifteenth or beginning of the sixteenth century. Fragments of the old clerestory, similar to that at Guilsfield, have come to light during the recent restoration; the clerestory itself was probably superseded, together with the battlemented parapet, during the extensive alterations of the nave in 1773-7; the chief features of which were the introduction of round Hanoverian windows and a low flat ceiling. The next alteration was the removal of the organ-loft or gallery<sup>2</sup> which divided the chancel and nave, and which had been the subject of much keen controversy in 1728-38,<sup>3</sup> and the substitution

tithes; demesnes of Powis Castle, a thirtieth sheaf and cock of hay; demesnes of Buttington, a fortieth sheaf and cock. (Z.)

<sup>1</sup> *Notes during the Restoration*, by Rev. J. E. Hill, M.A., in *Montgomeryshire Collections*, 1871, xxv.

<sup>2</sup> Probably the one built by Sir Edward Herbert in 1588; but possibly an old rood-loft of still earlier date, for a periwig thrown by one person at another in it, fell over the *Commandments* into a seat below; and it was argued that the west end was the proper place for a gallery. (MS. G.)

<sup>3</sup> In a petition against it, it is alleged that in it "a great number of the very common sorte of people sit (under pretence of psalm singing), who run

of another in its place. In 1813 Viscount Clive built a gallery at the west end to receive an organ which he presented to the church; the south gallery was added in 1821 and the north in 1822. In 1856 the dean and chapter of Christ Church, as lay impropiators, thoroughly repaired the chancel; the chancel arch was built at the same time and the east window of the nave inserted, containing in its three lights nine medallions of the life of Moses with others in the tracery, and the whole surmounted by the arms and coronet of Powis. In 1871 a thorough restoration was carried out under the direction of Mr. G. E. Street, R.A., at an expense of £4,200, which embraced the remodelling of the chancel with the addition of a north organ chamber, the lowering of the floor of the nave, and lengthening of the shafts of the pillars, the opening of a new bay at the west end by taking down the gallery and throwing the porch into the church, the removal of the ceiling and the substitution of an open roof of pitch pine, and the insertion of new decorated windows on the south side.<sup>1</sup>

The sacarium is raised above the chancel proper and backed by an arcaded reredos wrought in alabaster, with panels of Irish marble, the gift of the Countess of Powis. Triple sedilia, piscina, and credence table stand on the south side, and in a recess on the north side lies on a rich altar tomb of alabaster the recumbent effigy<sup>2</sup> of that Earl of Powis, in his robes as a K.G., to whose exertions it is mainly due that the dioceses of St. Asaph and Bangor have not been united into one.<sup>3</sup>

On the same wall stands the monument, by Mary his widow, to Sir Edward Herbert, Knight, who died in 1594. A small brass on the south wall commemorates Marianne; the wife of Wm. Clive, vicar, ob. 1841, æt. 36. The decorated east window of five lights contains a series of fifteen medallions illustrative of events in the life of St. Mary the Virgin; those on the north and south sides being filled with diaper glass. The brass lectern is a memorial to Lieut. Samuel Corrie, of the 18th Royal Irish, ob. 1867. The nave, which is divided from the chancel by a low stone screen ornamented with diaper carving,

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up and down there; some of them spitting upon people's heads below!" And it is further complained that "the psalm-singers ingross the psalm singing wholly to themselves, depriving thereby all the rest of the congregation of the great benefit of psalm singing and praising God. This is a new practice, very lately sprung up amongst us, which in many places in England hath been supprest and punished as a nuisance." (MS. Book G, 219.)

<sup>1</sup> *Notes during the Restoration.* The windows on the north side, and the buttresses, panels, and pinnacles designed for the south side, have not yet been undertaken.

<sup>2</sup> The work of Mr. Edward Richardson.

<sup>3</sup> The legend upon the tomb runs, "Hic obdormiscit in Christo Edwardus Herbert, Comes de Powis, Episcopatus Asaphensis Conservator. Obiit die xvii Jan. A. S. MDCCCXLVIII, æt. suæ LXIII." On a brass at the back is inscribed, "Erected by his widow, Lucy Countess of Powis, by whom he left eight children, five sons and three daughters", with appropriate texts.

has its roof panelled and its principals supported by massive tie beams. At the west end stands the restored font,<sup>1</sup> octagonal, on circular base and pillars, a memorial to Georgina Bridgeman, æt. 6,\* and inscribed "*Filiæ pientissimæ grati erga Deum quod illa paulisper frui licuit parentes fecerunt MDCCCLXXI.*" The basement of the tower forms the vestry; above is a fine peal of eight bells,<sup>2</sup> cast by Mears of London in 1824, and each inscribed with couplets, which also appear upon those at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury.<sup>3</sup> A chalice of pure Guinea gold, presented in 1662, by Thomas Davies, governor of that coast, bears the inscription "*Thomas Davies Anglorum in Africæ plaga occidentali procurator generalis ob vitam multifaria Dei misericordia ibidem conservatam calicem hunc e purissimo auro Guiniano conflatum, Dei honori et ecclesiæ de Welshpool ministerio perpetuo sacrum voluit. A quo usu SS si quis facinorosus eundem calicem in posterum alienaret (quod avertat Deus) Dei vindicis supremo tribunali pœnas luat. Cal. Apr. ix, MDCLXII.*" There is also a large silver christening bowl inscribed, "*The gift of John Edmunds, Esq., chief bailiff of the ancient borough of Welshpool, in the county of Montgomery, to the parish of Welshpool, 1773.*"

### CHRIST CHURCH.

This church was erected in 1839 in commemoration of the coming of age of Viscount Clive<sup>4</sup> and consecrated in 1844. The style is Nor-

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<sup>1</sup> Reproduced in Mansfield Woodhouse stone, after the fragments of an old one discovered underneath the one last used; which last one, "a large octagonal basin, unpierced, with rough foliage, after an early English pattern, is buried in the churchyard, about twenty-four feet in front of the south porch." (*Notes.*)

<sup>2</sup> One was recast in 1868, but the couplet not replaced.

<sup>3</sup> "In sweetest sound let each its note reveal:  
Mine shall be first to lead the dulcet peal.  
In mazy changes cheer the landscape wide,  
Court echo from the Park and Golfa side.  
And still, as sportive fancy counts them o'er,  
Shall waft them far on Severn's fertile shore.  
When female virtue weds with manly worth,  
We catch the rapture as we spread it forth.  
Does battle rage, do sanguine foes contend,  
We hail the victor if he's Britain's friend.  
Hail patriot George, for whom a nation prays  
That health and peace may crown thy latter days.  
May all whom I shall summon to the grave,  
The blessing of a well spent life receive."—*Bygones.*

<sup>4</sup> Inscription in chancel, "*In Dei gloriam et in perpetuam memoriam, Non. Nov. A. S. MDCCCXXXIX.*"



man, after the designs of Mr. Thomas Penson, and the plan consists of nave with north and south aisles of six bays, a semicircular apse, and a north-western tower. The apse is vaulted and lighted by three clerestory windows with detached shafts, filled with painted glass of the Transfiguration, Resurrection, and Ascension. Beneath the clerestory is a triforium and below that a continuous arcading with the panels filled with illuminations of the Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Decalogue, Nicene Creed, and second Advent collect, both in English and in Welsh; and the whole set off with a profusion of Norman ornamentation in terra cotta and brickwork. The encaustic tiles are inlaid with the royal arms and those of the Powis family and the see of St. Asaph. The nave is lighted by a range of clerestory windows and has the ceiling divided into panels. A gallery stands at the west end and near it the font, elaborately ornamented, and surrounded by a platform of encaustic tiles.<sup>1</sup>

The patronage is in the hands of the Earl of Powis, and the endowment consists of a rentcharge of £100 a year, pew rents, and £40 in railway bonds, out of which a sum of £30 a year is set aside for repairs, etc.

At the Belan, a School Church was erected in 1841, and in 1868 an apsidal chancel was added, at a cost of £200; it is lighted by three lancets, and separated from the school-room by a wooden screen and a pointed arch. Divine service is regularly held in it on Sundays.

The National Schools for boys and girls were erected in 1820 and enlarged 1839, 1842. They have an endowment arising from the interest of £140, left by Mr. Richard Tudor,<sup>2</sup> c. 1742; and of £100 left by Mr. Edward Parry, c. 1770.

An infant school and mistress's house was erected near Christ Church in 1848 at a cost exceeding £500.

Other charities comprise—

1. Burgesses land, c. 75 acres, granted by the charter of John de Charlton, Lord of Powys, 17th Edward II, and enclosed in 1761; the first use to be applied to the public buildings, and the surplus for poor and distressed burgesses.

2. Interest of £80 for apprentice fund and £50 for distribution, by Mr. Richard Tudor, c. 1742.

3. Interest of £70 for clothing, by Mr. Edw. Parry, c. 1770.

4. Interest of £50 for distribution, by Mr. Joseph Purcell.

5. Rent of Gwnfa in Llanfihangel, 31 acres of mountain land, purchased 1755 for £100, the bequest of Mr. Elijah Philips.

6. Interest of £90 for bread charity by Miss Elizabeth Lloyd.

<sup>1</sup> The cost was £6,000, defrayed by subscriptions.

<sup>2</sup> The interest of £100 of this was intended for teaching Latin. In a folio collection of MSS. (i, 166) occurs the entry: "18 June, 1598. Petition to Christ Church, Oxon., for £4 per annum, which used to be allowed to the school at Pool, and a studentship to a scholar educated there."

7. Rentcharge of £4 on Galfa, by Mr. Thomas Langford, for clothing.

8. Interest of £150 charged on lands, by Thomas Lloyd-Dickin, Esq., 1855, for poor.

9. Ditto, ditto, by his sister, 1857.

Lost.—Rentcharge of 20s., by Mrs. Ann Jervis, 1741; and a sum of 10s. for each of the eight occupants of the almshouse founded by Mr. Parry.

## VICARS.

1531.—LLOYD, J.<sup>1</sup>

1571.—PIERS, J.

—COMIS, Robert

1575.—MORGAN, Wm., A.M.<sup>2</sup>

1579.—DAVIES, Hugh<sup>3</sup>

1600.—KYFFIN, Thomas<sup>4</sup>

1622.—EVANS, Richard, A.M.<sup>5</sup>

1626.—PENRHYN, Humphrey

1632.—LANGFORD, Wm., A.M.<sup>6</sup>

1668.—DAVIES, Samuel, LL.D.<sup>7</sup>

1694.—WYNNE, William

1697.—HARDING, John, M.A.<sup>8</sup>

1735.—JAMES, William

1747.—MORGAN, William, M.A.<sup>9</sup>

1772.—PRYCE, John, M.A.<sup>10</sup>

1809.—WILLIAMES, Henry James

1819.—CLIVE, William, M.A.<sup>11</sup>

1865.—HILL, John Edward, M.A., Christ Church, Oxford; Deac., 1848; Pr., 1849; Curate of Ashburton, 1848-50; Welsh Pool, 1850-1865.

<sup>1</sup> Qu., V. Guilsfield?

<sup>2</sup> V. Llanrhaiadr yn Mochnant, 1578, where he translated the Bible into Welsh; Bishop of Llandaff, 1595; translated to St. Asaph, 1601.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanwrin, 1562; R. Llanerfyl, 1571; S. R. Pennant, 1577.

<sup>4</sup> V. Berriew and Canon, 1608.

<sup>5</sup> V. Llanrwst, 1618; V. Tremeirchion, 1619; Preb. Meifod, 1621; R. Hal-kin, 1626; V. Llanasa, 1633. Deprived by parliamentary sequestrators. (Suprà, p. 104.)

<sup>6</sup> Master of Ruthin School, 1626-8; R. Heneglwys, 1630; R. Llanerfyl, 1637; Canon, 1639; S. R. Llanfor, 1644. Deprived, but restored again, 1660. In his last Will, dated 1668, he gives a short autobiography, and, *inter alia*, complains of certain tithes in Pool and Buttington, which the then Lord Powis withheld after the Restoration, though they had been paid by him before the civil war. (MS. G. 217.)

<sup>7</sup> V. Guilsfield, 1670; Canon, 1677; Preb. Meifod, 1685.

<sup>8</sup> V. Chirbury, where he resided.

<sup>9</sup> Resided for the most part on his estate in Brecknockshire.

<sup>10</sup> Of Gunley. Fellow of Pembroke College, Oxford.

<sup>11</sup> St. John's College, Cambridge. V. Montford, Salop, 1831; Archdeacon of Montgomery, 1844; Hon. Canon, 1849; Residentiary Canon, 1854. Resigned, 1861. R. Blymhill, dioc. Lichfield, 1865; Rural Dean of Brewood.

## THE DEANERY OF WREXHAM.

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THIS deanery comprises (1), the parishes of Erbistock, Gresford, with its daughter churches of Gwersyllt and Rosset, Marchwiall, Rhuabon, with its districts of Rhos Llanerchrugog and Rhosymedre, and Wrexham, with its district churches of Brymbo and Minera and its chapelries of St. Mark and Berse Drelincourt, corresponding almost exactly to the ancient "Deanery of Maelor" in the *Taxatio*, A.D. 1291, and to the greater portion of "Bromfield," in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, A.D. 1535 ; (2), with the addition of the parishes of Bangor, Overton, Hammer with its daughter parish of Bronington, Holt, Isycoed, Threapwood, and Worthenbury, which were transferred to it from the deanery of Malpas and diocese of Chester by an Order in Council, dated 30th July, and gazetted 17th August, 1849.

### BANGOR.

THE townships of Bangor, Eyton, Royton, Pickhill, and Seswick,<sup>1</sup> comprise an area of 5,592 acres of the rateable value of £10,377, with about 240 inhabited houses, and a population of 1,193, for whose convenience, in addition to the parish church, a school chapel has also been erected at Eyton.

Situated on the line of the great Roman road, called the "Watling Street," this place is believed to be the Bovium or Bonium of the Itinerary ; and two of its ancient gateways<sup>2</sup> are still indicated in the names of Porth Hwgan and Porth Clais. On this site was also erected in very early times a famous British monastery,<sup>3</sup> from which Pelagius is said to have issued, and over which the celebrated Abbot Dunawd or Dinoth presided when Augustine first came to England. The part which the abbot took, as leader of the British bishops in their opposition to the pretensions of Augustine, is said, by Bede, to have excited

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<sup>1</sup> Of these names, Bangor means the "high choir", in allusion to its great monastery ; Eyton (Gwyton), the "water-land"; Royton (probably Gree-ton, i. q. Ryton), the "gravelly ground"; and Ierwick, a "vicus" of the Romans.

<sup>2</sup> Portæ.

<sup>3</sup> Hence called "Bangor Monachorum"; just as from the forest it once adjoined it is also called "Bangor-is-y-coed".



his especial anger and to have been instrumental in causing the slaughter of the monks and the destruction of the monastery by Aedilfrid, or Ethelfrith in 613. In this "most noble monastery, which in the language of the Angles is called Bancornaburg," there was so great a number of monks that the monastery being divided into seven parts, with a provost over each, none of those divisions contained fewer than three hundred men, who all lived by the labour of their hands. Many of these, after having observed a fast of three days, resorted, among others, to pray for their countrymen against the "mighty army" of Aedilfrid; and of their number about 1,200 are said to have been killed and only fifty to have escaped, and "thus was fulfilled the prediction of the holy Bishop Augustine that those perfidious men should feel the vengeance of temporal death also, because they had despised the offer of eternal salvation."<sup>1</sup> William of Malmesbury, writing in the twelfth century, says that there were still in his days "so many half destroyed walls of churches and such masses of ruins as could scarcely be seen elsewhere."<sup>2</sup> Leland, in the sixteenth century, quaintly adds that "the Abbay stooode yn Ynglyshe Mailor on the hither and south side of Dee. And it is ploughid grownd now where the Abbay was by the space of a good Walsch myle, and they plough up bones of the monkes, and in remembrance were digged up pecis of thayr clothes in sepulturs. The Abbay stooode in a faire valley and Dee ran by it. The cumpace of it was of a waulld toune, and yet remaynith the name of a gate caullid Porth Hogan by north and the name of a nother caullid Port Clays<sup>3</sup> by south. Dee syns chaunging the botom renneth now thoroug the mydle betwyxt thes 2 gates, one being a myle dim. from the other, and yn this ground be ploughid up foundations of squarid stonys, and Romaine money is founde there."<sup>4</sup> But in this latter part he appears to have confounded the Roman and the British remains. No memorials now survive.

The parochial history of this period is more or less obscure. For Bangor itself is not mentioned in the Domesday Record, although two of its townships are, and each of them as in part belonging to the see of Lichfield, which possessed at that time a hide of land in Eyton<sup>5</sup>, and had owned half a hide in Seswick and in Radenoure.<sup>6</sup> The ground of this ownership is further supplied in the notice that "King Ed-

<sup>1</sup> Beda's *Eccles. History*, book ii, § 94, p. 359, Stevenson's edition.

<sup>2</sup> "Sunt certe adhuc ibi tot semirutri parietes ecclesiarum, tantæ turbæ ruinarum quantæ vix alibi."—Haddan and Stubbs, *Councils*, i, 37.

<sup>3</sup> Porta ecclesiastica.

<sup>4</sup> *Itinerary*, v, 32, third edit., by Hearne, 1769.

<sup>5</sup> "Sanctus Cedde tenuit Eitune tempore regis Edwardi; ibi i hida. In Eitune habet isdem Sanctus unum villanum et dimidiam piscariam et dimidiam acram prati et ii acras silve. Valuit v solidos."

<sup>6</sup> "De hac terra hujus manerii jacuit i hida tempore regis Edwardi in ecclesia Sancti Cedde dimidia in Chespric et dimidia in Radenore."

ward (the Confessor) had granted to Prince Gruffydd all the land on the other (Welsh) side of the Dee, but on his forfeiture had taken it away from him and restored it to the Bishop of Chester (or Lichfield) and to his tenants who had possessed it before."<sup>1</sup> Whilst in this previous possession we may recognise the extent of the great Mercian kingdom in this direction, we have on the other hand in the grant and its restitution the clue to the after history of the church. For as a portion of Maelor it must have been in the family of Madoc<sup>2</sup> ap Meredydd until, through the murder of the eldest son of Madoc ap Gruffydd by John Earl Warren, it passed by grant of Edward I, in 1281, to the said earl. The *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas, A.D. 1291, does not notice the church, but it is probable that it remained in the patronage of the Warrens<sup>3</sup> until the death of Earl John in 1347, unless we are to conclude from the appointment of a rector by Sir Roger Le Straunge in this year, that it had formed a portion of the grant of Edward III in 1331 to Sir Eubule Le Strange.

Pennant mentions his belief that the lordship was "granted by Henry IV to Sir John Stanley, Knight, and continued in his family till the 41st of Elizabeth, when William Earl of Derby devised it to Sir Randle Brereton, and it has since devolved to Sir Thomas Hanmer, Baronet, and Philip Lloyd Fletcher, Esquire."<sup>4</sup> It would seem that the advowson followed the lordship, for a grant thereof was made by the Earl of Derby in 1584 to Mr. George Chambers, who nominated thereto a clergyman, whom the Bishop of Chester (Chadderton) refused to induct, as he claimed it for himself in commendam, on the ground of some other advowson granted to Sir W. Gerard; and this led to a letter of remonstrance being addressed to the bishop by Sir Francis Walsingham, the Queen's Secretary of State.<sup>5</sup> The devise of the lordship to Sir R. Brereton must, therefore, have been in part only, exclusive of the advowson, for in 1662 Dean Bridgeman was presented to the rectory by the Earl of Derby. From the Derby family the patronage afterwards passed, about the year 1680, by purchase, to the Lloyds of Gwernhaelod, in whom it remained until about the year 1830, when it was sold by Philip Lloyd Fletcher to the late Marquis of Westminster, whose son is the present patron. The value of the rectory in the time of the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, Hen. VIII, *i. e.*, 1535, was £39:6:8; but at that time it included not only its own rich lands and those of Overton, which was not separated from it until 1867, but also those of Worthenbury, which was constituted into a

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<sup>1</sup> "Rex Edwardus dedit regi Grifino totam terram que jacebat trans aquam que De vocatur. Sed postquam ipse Grifin forisfecit ei abstulit ab eo hanc terram et reddidit episcopo de Cestre et omnibus suis hominibus qui antea ipsam tenebant."

<sup>2</sup> From whom Overton was called Overton or "Owrtyn Fadoc."

<sup>3</sup> Two early coffin-lids, figured in Pennant's *Tours*, i, p. 302, have the arms of Warren on the shield of one, and the same quartered on the other.

<sup>4</sup> *Tours in Wales*, i, p. 288.

<sup>5</sup> *Curiosa Desiderata*, p. 153.

distinct cure in 1658. The commuted value of its tithes is £701 13s. and the rector has also a good house, rebuilt in 1868 at a cost of £1,600, from the plans of Mr. Douglas of Chester.<sup>1</sup>

The church, dedicated in the name of St. Dinoth, with the wake or festival on Sept. 22nd, consists of a chancel, a nave with north and south aisles, and a western tower. The chancel, which is raised above the nave and marked off from it by the ancient rood beam, has an early decorated window, c. 1300, at its east end, and a square-headed two-light ogee of the same date on the south side; and the wooden ceiling of the sacarium is also panelled and richly banded with early tracery. This was brought to light as well as the rest of the decorated roof, which extends under the plaster ceiling of the nave on to the western tower, on the restoration of the chancel in 1868;<sup>2</sup> on which occasion also the east window was filled with stained glass by public subscription in memory of "G. A. E. Marsh, M.A., for thirty-two years rector." The glass is by Gibbs, and the subjects of the five lights comprise the Crucifixion in the centre, with scenes on either side from the Good Samaritan,<sup>3</sup> and from the story of the British bishops and Augustine.<sup>4</sup> In the tracery above are four works of mercy, the Adoration of the Shepherds and the Magi, surmounted by the Virgin and Child, and at the head of all the Good Shepherd in Glory. Of the next period we have the fine old font, an octagon with panels occupied alternately by the evangelistic emblems and the instruments of the passion, with one shield of fleurs-de-lis, which, with the rose, flower, and other devices of the Tudor era, assign it to the middle of the fifteenth century, and of about the same date we have the pillars of the north arcade. Much damage must have been inflicted during the Caroline troubles, for we find that in 1643, on the 15th February, "Bangor in Flintshire began to be fortified for the king"; and in 1644 "The king's soldiers burnt Bangor upon Dee and other great houses that if fortified might annoy the garrisons of Salop and Chester;"<sup>5</sup> and again in an entry in the parish registers by Ro. Fogg in 1660 we are told that "The chancel hath been formerly levelled, according to the ordinance of Parliament of 1643; the stalls removed, and that it had been made even with the body of the church and seats assigned in it."<sup>6</sup> A brief for the repairs of the church was granted in 1723,

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<sup>1</sup> In the hall is a list of the rectors from 1662 downwards, with their coats of arms; and over the entrance the motto, "*Utinam veris hanc amicis impleam.*"

<sup>2</sup> Plans by Mr. Douglas. Outlay, £400. Brass tablet under east window, "*Hoc sacarium restauratum est Rectore G. H. McGill A.D. 1868.*"

<sup>3</sup> Supposed to be a portrait of G. A. F. M.

<sup>4</sup> St. Augustine is said to be copied from a picture at the Vatican.

<sup>5</sup> William Maurice's MSS.

<sup>6</sup> Another entry, of the next year, notes the appointment of "a sufficient man for a beadle of the parish, to apprehend all foreign poor and wandering rogues within the limits of the said parish."



and from the amount required, £2,427, they must have been considerable.<sup>1</sup> The south aisle and the tower were now built, and four of the six bells bear the date 1727.<sup>2</sup> The rules hung up in the steeple for the ringers are quaint and perhaps of the same date.

“If that to ring you do come here,  
 You must ring well with hand and ear;  
 But if you ring in spur or hat,  
 Four pence alwayes is due for that :  
 And if a bell you overthrow,  
 Six pence is due before you go.  
 But if you either swear or curse,  
 Twelve pence is due ; pull out your purse.  
 Our laws are old ; they are not new ;  
 Therefore the clerk must have his due.  
 If to our laws you do consent,  
 Then take a bell ; we are content.”

The fine fresco on the south wall, supposed to be that of St. Dinoth, but with the crozier turned outwards, was removed hither from the chancel at probably the same time, and then too most likely were set up the pews, some of which are inscribed “half this pew belongs to . . . four-fifths of this to . . . two seats in this to . . . etc. In 1832 the church was again enlarged,<sup>3</sup> by the extension of the north transept or short aisle, westwards to its present length and the substitution of a flat battlemented roof for the previous dormer gables.<sup>4</sup>

Besides the coffin-lids of the Warrens three others are figured in Pennant's *Tours*, viz., 1, Bearing a Greek cross with a griffin and a lion passant ; 2, A semi-effigial slab, with a shield inscribed “*Hic jacet Ithel Cadwgan* ;” 3, A similar one showing the head of the figure and around the shield which bears the lion passant of the Lacys, “*Hic jacet William de Frens*.”<sup>5</sup> Among the more recent memorials may be named tablets to the old family of the Eytons of Eyton, to rector Fletcher and his widow, the daughter of Thos. Lloyd of Halghton and Gwernhaylod, the patron, 1777, some of the Marshes, and here is the family vault of the last male representative of the Pantons of Anglesey, Capt. Panton of Plas Fron, ob. 1872, et. 78.

<sup>1</sup> Clocaenog Register.

<sup>2</sup> By Abraham Rudhall ; the fifth by John Rudhall, 1811 ; and the sixth by Mears and Stainsborough, 1865.

<sup>3</sup> Towards this the Church Building Society gave £150 ; Marquis of Westminster, Sir F. Cunliffe, and F. R. Price, Esq., £50 each ; Earl of Plymouth, £25.

<sup>4</sup> From a sketch taken by Moses Griffith c. 1780, which also shews the tracery of the east window of this aisle to have been similar to that of the chancel.

<sup>5</sup> *Tours in Wales*, i, p. 302. One Hugh de Frenes married Alice, daughter of Lacy Earl of Lincoln, and widow of Thomas Earl of Lancaster, beheaded in 1321.

## EYTON SCHOOL CHAPEL.

THIS school chapel, which is about three miles from the parish church, was opened for divine service on Feb. 8th, 1870, and as a school on Feb. 23, 1870. The building comprises a nave or schoolroom, entered by two porches, and divided off by a large arch at the east end, a chancel or class-room as occasion requires. The material consists of bricks, which are moulded for the doorways, window jambs, mullions, and chimneys; the exterior elevations being relieved by diapers and strings of blue, and a bell turret finishing off the west gable. The plans were provided by Mr. Douglas, and the cost amounted to £430, towards which the late Marquis of Westminster, the patron, contributed £50, and an additional £50 as a thank-offering for recovery from a sickness, the present Duke, £30, Bishop Short, Lord Kenyon, and the rector, £50 each, and Mr. Edmund Peel £60. The site was presented by Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart.

The service is performed alternately by the rectors of Bangor and Marchwail.

The National School, erected in 1730, has an endowment, arising from a bequest of £500 by Lady Dorothy Jeffreys in 1728, which was invested in lands in Holt and Bangor, about 27 acres in all, and now yielding £50 per annum.

The other charities comprise :—1681. PRICE, Edward, jun., 5 a. 2 r. in Holt, which with cottage thereon now yields £10 per annum. 1748. TUNNA, Thomas, £40, invested in cottages at Holt,<sup>1</sup> and —. — DAVIES, Deborah, £60, now producing £7 a year.

*Bread.*—EYTON, Sir Gerrard, per Leathersellers' Co., £1; EYTON, Kenric, £25 in Turnpike Trust, £1; LLOYD, Peter, 1781, £200 on Graig Farm, 2 $\frac{3}{4}$  acres, yielding £10 a year.

*Lost.*—ELLIS, Mrs. Dorothy, butts of land in Dol Bangor;<sup>3</sup> TUNNA, Edward, of Cloy, 1738, Cae Helyg;<sup>4</sup> LLOYD, Thos., £60; Lloyd, Rev. John, £10; Morris, Rev. Hugh, £50; Price, Edw., £50;<sup>5</sup> DAVIES, Mrs. Sarah, £20, in 1737; Kenrick, Eyton, £5, in 1780.<sup>6</sup>

## RECTORS.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| c. 1540.—KNIGHT, Dr. <sup>7</sup>         | 1606.—WILLIAMS, John, D.D. <sup>9</sup> |
| c. 1604.—LLOYD, George, D.D. <sup>8</sup> | 1640.—MORRIS, Hugh <sup>10</sup>        |

<sup>1</sup> Limited to Bangor township.

<sup>2</sup> Limited to widows in Eyton Township.

<sup>3</sup> An inquisition on this was held at St. Asaph, 36 Car. II, i. e., 1634.

<sup>4</sup> Paid for many years, but afterwards withheld on the score of the Mortmain Act.

<sup>5</sup> Believed to have been used for the church bells, and never allowed for.

<sup>6</sup> By insolvency.

<sup>7</sup> Leland's *Itinerary*.

<sup>8</sup> R. Thornton, dioc. Chester; Bishop of Sodor and Man, 1600; translated to Chester, 1604. Died, 1615.

<sup>9</sup> Warden of Ruthin, 1606-21. Monument in Ruthin Church.

<sup>10</sup> Lord Stanley and Strange presented as true patron. (Gastrell's *Nobilia*.)

- .—FOGG, Robert<sup>1</sup> 1730.—FLETCHER, John, A.M.<sup>4</sup>  
 1662.—BRIDGEMAN, Henry<sup>2</sup> 1741.—PHILLIPS, William, A.M.  
 1682.—LLOYD, John, A.B.<sup>3</sup> 1762.—LLOYD, Frederic, A.M.<sup>5</sup>  
 1690.—LLOYD, William, A.M.<sup>3</sup> 1798.—WYNNE, Maurice, LL.D.<sup>6</sup>  
 1690.—JONES, Rice, A.M.<sup>3</sup> 1835.—MARSH, George, A.E., M.A.

1867-8.—MCGILL, George Henry, M.A., Brasen. Coll., Oxon.; Deac., 1841; Pr., 1842; P. C. Christ Ch., St. George's in the East, 1854-67; author of *Pamphlet and Letters on the London Poor Rate*; *Occasional Sermons*; *Papers on Archæological Subjects*. (The "East End Incumbent" of *The Times*.)

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### ERBISTOCK.<sup>7</sup>

THIS small parish, embracing an area of only 1,571 acres, of the rateable value of £2,341, with a population of 344, lies partly in the Hundred of Bromfield and County of Denbigh, and partly in that of Maelor in the County of Flint. This connection with the lordship of Maelor may have given rise to the supposition that in early times it was an outlying portion of Bangor and the church a subject capella, but the supposition is not confirmed by any historic record. The *Taxatio* of 1291 describes it as a rectory valued at £5, tenths 10s., and the *Valor* of 1535 also as a rectory of the gross value of £8, nett £7 : 14 : 4, tenths 15s. 5½d. The commuted value is £252, in addition to which there is a house built by rector Davies, and 28 acres of glebe. The patronage has recently been transferred from the bishop of the diocese to the Bishop of Llandaff.

The old church, taken down in 1859, was dedicated to St. Hilary, Jan. 13, and described as "a neat modern edifice in the Grecian style of architecture, beautifully situated on the bank of the river Dee."<sup>8</sup>

The touching history of the present edifice is recorded on a brass at the west end, which states that "This church was entirely rebuilt A.D. 1860-61 by Caroline Boates of Rose Hill to the glory of God and in loving memory of her husband, Henry Ellis Boates. She died while the church was in course of erection, and it was completed by

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<sup>1</sup> Ejected at the Restoration.

<sup>2</sup> Dean of Chester; Bishop of Sodor and Man, 1671; S. R. Llanrwst, 1672.

<sup>3</sup> These three were of Gwernhaelod.

<sup>4</sup> Of Shuddabank in Cumberland; also R. Hawarden, 1728-42.

<sup>5</sup> Monument in the chancel.

<sup>6</sup> V. Much Wenlock, Salop. His monument in Overton Church. He was of Llwyn, co. Denbigh, and the last male descendant of the house of Gwydir. Ob. 1835, æt. seventy-five.

<sup>7</sup> In Welsh, *Y Bistog*, probably formed from *stoc*, Danish and Anglo-Saxon for "stockade, palings", and the equivalent Welsh term, *pyst*, prefixed.

<sup>8</sup> Lewis, *Topographical Dict.*



their daughter Gertrude Mary Boates, by whom the reredos was given to the church in loving memory of her husband Henry Girardot, and of their only child, Guy Henry Girardot, in the year of grace 1872.” The style is Decorated, and the ground plan comprises a nave with north and south aisles of three bays, a polygonal apsidal chancel, a south porch, and western bell gable, pierced for three bells. The reredos of Caen stone is in three compartments, supported by marble columns, and surmounted by a hooding of the vine pattern. In the centre our Lord is instituting the Last Supper, and on either side are the Lord’s Prayer and the Decalogue. Five single foliated lights around the east end, with the two on the south side of the chancel are filled with stained glass “to the memory of Lieut.-Col. Henry Ellis Boates, who died Dec. 8, 1858, and Caroline, his wife, who died June 24, 1860,” and have for their subjects in the following order, Raising Jairus’ Daughter, Stilling the Tempest, the Good Shepherd, Blessing little Children, Healing the Blind Man, Washing the Disciples’ Feet, and the Interview at Jacob’s Well. The chancel is divided from the nave by a freestone arch with a deep groove of flowers, supported on short marble pillars, with carved capitals; and the nave from its aisles by handsome marble columns, with richly carved capitals of freestone and arches of warm coloured sandstone. The polygonal pulpit of freestone has its alternate panels carved, and a corbel band surrounding it. The prayer desk is of wood with a carved panel of the Annunciation. The font is octagonal and has its panels alternately set off with flowers and labels, I.H.S., One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism. The west window of three lights is in illustration of Faith, Hope and Charity as represented by Martha and Mary, Simeon and the Good Samaritan.<sup>2</sup> Among the monumental tablets are some to Sir John Evans, Knt., of Erbistock Hall, 1825, ætat 70; Elizabeth, his widow, 1832, æt. 68; Anne, wife of Robert Howell Vaughan, of Hengwrt and Nannau, 1791, æt. 60, and daughter of E. Williames of Meillionydd and Ystymcolwyn, several of whose family are buried here.

The school was erected in 1832 at a cost of £200.

The charities comprise the interest of £60,<sup>3</sup> known as Lloyd’s Charity, and a claim for one person in Rector Robinson’s almshouses at Rhuabon.

#### RECTORS.

1537.—JOHN AP DAVID

1577.—BULKELEY, Rowland

1560.—BARTON (or Lloyd), John

1578.—ROBERTS, Sampson

<sup>1</sup> A polished granite tombstone with a white marble cross, in the churchyard, marks the grave of Henry Ellis Boates, 1858, and C. Boates, 1860.

<sup>2</sup> In memory of Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Boates. Given by her sisters, Emily and Hannah Vann Mansfield, 1861.

<sup>3</sup> £20 each left by Mr. Manley, Rector Robinson, and Mr. Ellis Lloyd of Penylan, 1712.

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1585.—ROBERTS, John <sup>1</sup>   | 1706.—DAVIES, Richard, M.A. <sup>6</sup>   |
| 1605.—MAURICE, Andrew              | 1744.—EYTON, John, M.A. <sup>7</sup>       |
| 1614.—PRICE, Thomas <sup>2</sup>   | 1753.—MURRAY, Thomas, M.A.                 |
| 1627.—LLOYD, Humphrey <sup>3</sup> | 1767.—LLOYD, Henry, B.A. <sup>8</sup>      |
| 1666.—MATTHEWS, Maurice            | 1777.—VENABLES, Joseph, LL.B. <sup>9</sup> |
| 1670.—SMYTHE, William <sup>4</sup> | 1805.—ROBSON, George, M.A. <sup>10</sup>   |
| 1680.—ROBINSON, John <sup>5</sup>  |  |

1852.—PRICE, Peter, M.A., Jes. Coll., Oxon; Deac., 1818; Pr., 1819; R. Llanycil, 1841-52.

### GRESFORD.<sup>11</sup>

THIS parish was at one time of great extent, embracing the whole of the district, east and west, between Hope and the Dee, and north and south from the borders of Cheshire to those of the parish of Wrexham, with Holt and Isycoed as its chapelries. The constitution of these, however, into separate parishes, the formation of the new ecclesiastical districts of Gwersyllt and Rossett, and the transfer of Erddig and Erlas townships to Wrexham, and of Borrass Hofa from Wrexham, make the present district attached to the parish church comprise the townships of Gresford, Llay, Borrass Riffri, Borrass Hofa, and portions of Burton, Allington, and of Marford and Hoseley, with an area of about 6,150 acres, of the rateable value of £7,395 : 13 : 2, and a population of 1,792.

The *Taxatio* of 1291 returns the value of the rectory at £15 : 6 : 8, decima £1 : 10 : 8, and the vicarage at £8 : 13 : 4, dec. 17s. 4d.; and the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, A.D. 1535, gives the rectory as worth £88, deductions £1 15s., nett value £86 5s., tenths £8 : 12 : 6, and the vicarage as £22 : 2 : 10 gross; £21 : 1 : 8 nett, and £2 : 2 : 2 tenths. This makes no account of any impropriation of the rectory, which it

<sup>1</sup> V. Corwen, 1578; R. Cerrigydrudion, 1581; V. St. Martin's, 1588.

<sup>2</sup> R. Aberhafesp, 1614.

<sup>3</sup> V. Rhuabon, 1646; Dean of St. Asaph, 1663; V. Gresford, 1673; Bishop of Bangor, 1673.

<sup>4</sup> V. Wrexham, 1670.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llanferras, 1660; V. Rhuabon, 1675, where he founded the Grammar School and ten almshouses.

<sup>6</sup> V. Rhuabon, 1706; Canon, 1710; Preb. Brecon and St. David's.

<sup>7</sup> Of Leeswood. Held a living in Gloucestershire.

<sup>8</sup> Of Priddbwl.

<sup>9</sup> Of Woodhill. P. C. Morton, 1783.

<sup>10</sup> Preb. Llanfair, 1803; V. Chirk, 1804-52.

<sup>11</sup> "Y Groes-ffordd," i.e., "the cross road." Near the village is the base of an old wayside cross, with the socket for the pillar, and indications of carved figures at its angles.

would have done had such existed; but it has been stated that it "once belonged to the dean and canons of St. Stephen's, Westminster, and passed over 2 Edward VI, in exchange, to the chapter of Winchester."<sup>1</sup> This idea may have arisen from the circumstance that John Chamber, "Dean of the King's College of Our Lady and St. Stephen" at Westminster, when rector, granted in 1529 to Thomas Byllot, laic,<sup>2</sup> a lease of the rectory house and tithes for twenty-eight years at £80 per annum.

In this lease it is provided *inter alia* that the said Thomas Byllot "shall fynde an able and suffycient preist to serve and kepe the cure at Holt (being a member or chappel of the sayd parsonage) to synge and say dyvyne syrvyce dayly and ther to mynyster dyvyne sacraments and sacramentalls to the parishioners ther inhabyting."<sup>3</sup>

The appropriation to the dean and chapter of Winchester was made in 1547 in exchange for certain manors in Wiltshire,<sup>4</sup> and it appears that Mr. Wynne, their farmer, was excommunicated in 1586 for not appearing at the bishop's visitation and paying procurations.<sup>5</sup> Whether this refusal had anything to do with the question of jurisdiction or patronage is doubtful; but it appears that in 1743 the dean and chapter issued a caveat against the bishop's appointment of a vicar, adding that in their leases of the rectory they always put in a clause, reserving to themselves the patronage of the vicarage, and claiming that they had once presented a clerk, but with what effect was not known.<sup>6</sup> The evidence against them was, however, overwhelming, and they expressed themselves quite satisfied; but the reservation was curious, and was continued in their leases even down to the time when their property passed into the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

The commutation returns adopt the extent of the old parish, including Holt and Isycoed, and are as follows:—

Townships.	D. & Ch. Winchester.				Vicar.				Lay Impropr.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Allington .	286	15	6	...	153	4	6	...	70	0	0	
Borras Riffri .	39	17	6	...	22	2	6					
Burton .	275	0	0	...	125	0	0	...	40	0	0	
Caca Dutton .	60	0	0									
Dutton Diffaith .	75	0	0									
Dutton y Brain .	90	0	0									
Erlas .	58	8	9	...	43	11	3					

<sup>1</sup> MS. Book Z.

<sup>2</sup> Thos. Bellot of Burton was sheriff of Denbighshire in 1556. He was also farmer of St. John's Hospital, Chester; and one of his sons was Hugh, vicar of this parish, 1579. Bishop of Bangor, 1585.

<sup>3</sup> MS. G. The Westminster books have no notice of Gresford.

<sup>4</sup> "Pat. 1 Edw. VI, p. 2, m., pro rectoriis de Gresford (Denb.), Crookhern (Somerset), et Lawhern (Cardigan), in excambio pro maneriis de Overton, etc. (Wilt)."—Tanner's *Notitia*, p. 154.

<sup>5</sup> MS. Book Z.

<sup>6</sup> MS. Book G.



Townships.	Dean & Ch. Winchester.			Vicar.			Improp.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Erthig . . .	20	12	6	...	20	7	6		
Gresford . . .	102	2	0	...	76	8	0		
Gwersyllt . . .	180	2	6	...	81	17	6		
Holt . . .	470	0	0						
Holt Parks District . . .	33	0	0	...	18	7	0		
Llay . . .	220	0	0	...	100	0	0		
Ridley . . .	80	0	0						
Sutton . . .	165	0	0						
Marford and Hoseley . . .	37	16	3	...	28	3	9	...	47 10 0
	£2193	15	0 <sup>1</sup>		£669	2	0		£157 10 0

Of the above townships, Holt, with the Parks district, now belongs to Holt; the three Duttons, with Ridley and Sutton, to Isycoed; Gwersyllt to its own parish; portions of Allington, Burton, Marford, and Hoseley to Rosset; Erlas and Erddig by transfer in 1851 to Wrexham; and the remainder, with Borrás Hofa from Wrexham, to the parish church. Of the tithes the vicar has given up his portion from Gwersyllt, £81 : 17 : 6, for the endowment of that new church, to which the dean and chapter of Winchester added £40 from the rectorial; and this has been augmented by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, as their successors, to £271 : 17 : 11. They have also assigned £275 to Rosset, £297 to Holt, and £330 to Isycoed, and have transferred to the vicar £73 : 11 : 11½ in Gresford, £94 : 13 : 9 in Llay, £33 in Holt Parks, and £16 13s. in Marford and Hoseley, in all £217 : 18 : 9, in exchange for £217 : 3 : 3 arising from the townships of Allington, Erddig, and Erlas. The present income is £588, with 47 acres of glebe, and an excellent house erected in 1850, at a cost of £2,359 : 10 : 11.<sup>2</sup> Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The church, All Saints, is said to have been founded by "Ithel, son of Eunydd, son of Gwenllian, daughter of Rhys ap Marchan, styled the heiress of Dyffryn Clwyd. This Ithel had six sons, who jointly gave the land whereon the parish church is built, and the sepulchres of his grandchildren are in the church."<sup>3</sup> It appears to have been enlarged and beautified at different times, and gradually to have assumed its final form, which as in the other large churches of the neighbourhood, such as Wrexham, Rhuabon, Mold, and Hanmer, com-

<sup>1</sup> There are also 184½ acres of rectorial glebe.

<sup>2</sup> Exclusive of £121 5s. for walling, etc., and the materials of the old vicarage house built by vicar Humphrey Lloyd, improved by Newcome, enlarged by Horsley, and sold, with a field, for £1,060; of which sum £500 was spent on the new house, and £400 in the purchase of a field near Gwersyllt Vicarage, for its glebe. Of the £2,359 : 10 : 11, there was £1,000 for dilapidations on old house, £500 from its sale, and the remainder paid by the vicar, Archdeacon Wickham.

<sup>3</sup> Edwards' *Browne Willis*, i, p. 287.

prised chancel and nave, with western tower, and north and south aisles running their whole length, the eastern bay or chancel aisle in each instance forming a private chapel or chantry, that on the north here belonging to Llay, and a part of the one on the south to Trefalyn. The main body of the church appears to belong to the middle of the thirteenth century, and was most likely the work of the warrior whose tomb formerly occupied one of the recesses at the base of the tower, and now rests in the wall of the south aisle, with a lion rampant on his shield and the legend "Hic jacet Madoc ap Llewelin ap Griffri."<sup>1</sup> The tower, to the height of its first band, appears to have been next added towards the end of the fourteenth century, and the chancel lengthened; and this most probably was done by that other chieftain, whose tomb once occupied the other recess in the tower, and now lies in the wall of the north aisle, ornamented with rich foliage, and showing the warrior's spear, and sword grasped in mailed hand, and shield which bears the device of three mullets on a bend, with the legend "HIC JACET GRONW F. IORWERTH F. DD. CUJ AIE DS ABSOLWAT." The arms show him to have been one of the later posterity of Ithel ap Ednyfed, whose father had the townships of Gresford and Alington bestowed on him for services done to Bledlyn ap Cynvyn in the wars against the English.<sup>2</sup> Towards the end of the next century the church was in a great measure rebuilt, the upper part of the beautiful tower added, the elaborate rood loft and handsome screen erected, the fine perpendicular roof put up, the chantries completed, and the windows filled with rich painted glass. The source of these improvements is indicated in a lease of the old vicarage house, made 34 Henry VIII, *i. e.* 1543, by Vicar White to Bishop Wharton or Parfew, in which it is stated that many offerings had been brought to this church from divers parts of the country, by reason of which it was strongly and beautifully made erecte and builded, and also all manner of ornaments and necessities for the replenishing and furnishing of the said church was bought and provided, and not a little aid obtained this way for the better sustentation of the living; but that these had lately, for certain abuses, been by a law abrogated and taken away, and had left the parishioners badly off for the offerings and the advantages accruing from the concourse of persons that used to frequent it.<sup>3</sup> In 1772 a new altar and other ornaments were put up at an outlay of £100 : 5 : 6, raised by subscription, and three years

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<sup>1</sup> According to Pennant he was of Eyton, Erlisham, and Rhiwabon. Died 1331. A still earlier tombstone, that of Griffri ap Cadwgan (lord of Erlis and Boras) ap Meilyr ap Eyton, was found a few years ago in an old barn at Pantyrochain.

<sup>2</sup> Pennant's *Tours in Wales*, i, p. 409.

<sup>3</sup> Manuscript book G, Palace library. One condition of the lease was that the bishop should pay the vicar £2 per annum rent; but if he should receive any further spiritual dignity or office from him, it should be reduced to 4d. He was made canon in 1546.

later three of the bells were recast at Gloucester. In 1813 an organ was presented by Mrs. Hayman and a loft erected for it, and this has again been replaced in 1873 by a new organ, built by Hill and Son of London, at a cost of £500, and said to be the finest instrument in any parish church in the diocese. Finally, in 1867, after a thorough restoration of the fine old edifice and its furniture, begun on January 7, under the direction of Mr. G. E. Street, R.A., it was re-opened on the 7th of May. This restoration embraced the substitution of free and open seats for the old pews, the cleaning of the roof and walls, a new flooring throughout and encaustic pavement for the chancel, new pulpit, and other improvements, involving an outlay of £2,719 5s.,<sup>1</sup> which was followed up by the renovation of some of the injured glass of the fine old east window at a further cost of £200.<sup>2</sup> Some memorial windows have subsequently been added and will be described in the more detailed account to which I will now proceed. With the exception of the pillars of the nave arcading the lower portion of the tower and the graceful decorated window of the south aisle, the general character is late perpendicular; the most striking feature externally is the handsome tower, whilst internally the opening view from the west door embraces at once the fine roof, the beautiful rood screen and the rich east window. The tower is set off with pinnacles and battlements, and upon the latter as well as on the face of the buttresses at the angles stand carved figures of angels, warriors, and kings. Traceried bands, quaint gargoyles, and hollow cornices adorn its four sides, and these last are carried round the entire church and represent, as at Mold and elsewhere, a chase of cats, mice, dogs, and grotesque creatures. Internally, the chancel, which is divided from the nave by a rich and elaborate rood loft and screen, and from its aisles also by elegant screens, retains its ancient stalls with their beautifully carved finials and their curious and quaint misereres.<sup>3</sup> The rich old glass of the east window represents in the tracery the genealogy of Our Lord from Jesse, and in its seven lights the earlier portion of the "Te Deum" down to "aperuisti credentibus regna cælorum," as the joyous hymn respectively of Virgins, Apostles, the Holy Church, Cherubim, Martyrs, the Heavenly Host, and Virgin Martyrs. The communion chairs are carved out of one of the beams of the roof which was broken through by the fall of one of the pinnacles of the tower during a storm in 1850. A handsome brass corona has been put up in memory of Anne Townshend, ob. 1873; and there are on the walls monumental brasses to Lieut. Wm. Egerton, 2nd Bengal

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<sup>1</sup> Chief subscriptions, £500 by P. Hunter, Esq., Mount Alyn; £115 by Mrs. Egerton; £100 each by Archdeacon Wickham, J. H. Foulkes of Llay, H. Hassall, and Bishop Short; £50 each by D. Rasbotham, C. Townshend, and J. Sykes, Esqrs.

<sup>2</sup> Done by Clayton and Bell, Oct. 26, 1867.

<sup>3</sup> *E. g.*, a fox preaching to birds, a rat leading a cat, a man carried mountebank fashion on a pole, etc.



Native Infantry, 1841 ; and to Eliza, daughter of P. Egerton, and wife of Sir J. Delves Broughton, 1857 ; and tablets to W. Egerton of Gresford Lodge, with bust by Chantrey, 1827 ; G. Warrington, 1770 ; Rev. Geo. Warrington, A.M., 1830 ; Rev. H. Newcome, "nearly forty years the resident vicar of the parish," 1803 ; "and John Parry of Gresford Lodge, twice M.P. for Carnarvon, 1797 ; by R. Westmacot, Jun." The roof throughout is divided into square panels with ribs and bosses, and is lighted by a clerestory range ; and the line of an earlier one may still be traced on the wall of the tower. The pulpit, presented by Miss Egerton of Gresford Lodge, is of Caen stone, with figures of Our Lord and the four Evangelists on its alternate panels, and stands on a clustered base. On the north side the Llai chantry has a rich shrine or niche in north-east angle, and its east window of four lights filled with fine old glass, illustrative of the legend of the Virgin, with portraits in two of the lights of the donors thereof, the husband with his four sons behind him being on one side, and the wife with her four daughters on the other ; the names have been lost, but there remains a date "MCCCC nonagesimo octavo."<sup>1</sup> An entrance now blocked up formerly led from this to a crypt or vault beneath the chancel, which is now used for the heating apparatus. The family monuments embrace Gulielmus Madocks de Llay Hall, 1749 ; Johannes Madocks, 1794 ; and John Madocks of Fronyw and Glanywern, M.P. for Denbigh boroughs, 1837. An elegant screen divides this chantry from the aisle, in a recess in the north wall of which lies the tombstone already noticed of Gronw ap Iorwerth, removed hither probably during the rebuilding in the fifteenth century. Fragments of stained glass of various periods and designs are preserved in most of the north windows, and at the west end is a modern window to represent the raising of Lazarus, memorial to Maria, wife of Patrick Hunter of Mount Alyn, 1867. A life-size figure by W. Theed represents a female mourner, being a widow's memorial to John Williams of Gwersyllt Park. On the south side, the Trefalyn chantry or chapel, which also is divided from the chancel and aisle by screens, contains some interesting monuments ; one on the east wall to "Sion Trevor" (John Trevor of) Trevalyn, 1589, a recumbent effigy in plate armour, with a long pedigree in Welsh, tracing him through successive generations back to Tudor Trefor, Earl of Hereford, and with twenty-three shields of arms. Another on the north wall has two kneeling figures, representing Sir Richard Trevor, Knight, 1638 (son of the preceding) and dame Katherine, his wife, 1602, daughter of Roger Puleston of Emral, who is also represented with her five daughters on another monument. There are also tablets to Thomas Griffith of Trefalyn, 1856, and Georgiana Boydell of Brynalyn ; and on an altar tomb inlaid brasses to "Christopher Parkins, sometime curate of this church, 1843 ;" and to Anne Arabella Boscawen, his wife, 1826. The piscina still remains in the south wall, and in a recess of the same, within the

<sup>1</sup> This had been a good deal mutilated, and has been repaired by Clayton and Bell at the cost of Colonel Madocks.

aisle, the tomb of Madoc ap Llewelyn, already described. The new organ stands in this aisle, and at its west end the octagonal font, with its panels somewhat rudely carved with angels and instruments of the passion. The window above it of four lights illustrative of the Birth, Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension, designed by Clayton and Bell, is memorial to George Herbert Wickham, son of the vicar, who died at Sydney in 1868, æt. 33. A window on the south side by Clayton and Bell, memorial to D'Arcy Rasbotham, ob. 1872, æt. 29, has a series of scripture illustrations of youthful piety as exhibited in Abel, Isaac, Samuel, Joseph, David and Jonathan, Josiah, Timothy and the widow of Nain's son. Another by Ward and Hughes, in memory of John Townshend, ob. 1861, and Anne Townshend, 1873, represents the Last Supper and Christ bearing his Cross in the two inner lights, Moses striking the Rock, and the Brazen Serpent in the outer ones. The remaining windows are filled in with diaper quarries.

The churchyard was much enlarged in 1862 and consecrated Nov. 11. There are some early coffin lids in the east wall, and a fine old yew tree within the enclosure, calculated to be above 1,400 years old.

The schoolroom near the church bears the inscription "*Schola Eleemosyna Dnæ Margaretæ Strode Fundata 1725 ad pauperes ejus sumptibus erudiendos*," and was endowed by her with £500, which was laid out in the purchase of land.

Very handsome new Schools with residence are now being erected at the cost of the Vicar, as a memorial to his brother-in-law, Bishop Short, who died at the Vicarage, April 13th, 1872, on a site (half an acre) which has been purchased from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The building, comprising schoolroom, classroom, master's house, etc., is Gothic of thirteenth century, from the plans of Mr. E. Jones, the diocesan surveyor. The foundation stone was laid by Mrs. Egerton of Gresford Lodge, Oct. 18, 1873.

At "Burton" there is also a school church, in which divine service is performed on Sundays. It was built in 1862, on a site presented by Mr. J. Sykes, at a cost of £248 : 12 : 1, of which Mrs. Townshend contributed £100, and a house for the mistress has subsequently been added.

The charities comprise—

1. Rentcharge of £13 : 6 : 8 on Gwersyllt Hall estate, but originally on lands in Allington, founded in 1595 by Mr. John Davies, yeoman of her Majesty's chamber.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Charity Commissioners' Report makes this the subject of a decree of Chancery, made at Flint, April 4, 1711, when £414 : 1 : 2, for arrears and expenses, were paid to the churchwardens by Lady Jeffreys of Acton, and attributes the loss of this sum to the cupidity of the churchwardens; but there is little doubt that it was spent in the purchase of a property in Rosset, now producing £80 per annum, and that it represents the Strode and Jeffreys charities. R. W.

2. Rent of Pant, 7 a. 2 r. 26 p., by Richard Lloyd of Rosset, 1677.
3. Rentcharge of £7 on Burton Hall, 1634, by Anthony Lewis.
4. Rent of Rosset tenement, 24 a. 1 r. 7 p., bought with Consolidated Charity and School Bequests.
5. Rent of Pant Elwyn, 7 a. 2 r. 36 p., ditto.
6. Interest of £100 in 3 per Cents. by Lady Williams-Wynn.
7. Rent of 24 a. 2 r. 15 p. purchased with benefactions of Peter, Ann (senior), Jane and Ann (jun.) Shakerley.

A sum of £20 left by Amy Peck of Cornish was expended in 1772 on the poor's tenement at Rosset, and a sum of £10 for books by Robt. Taylor, similarly employed.

A rentcharge by Thomas ap Ithel of Borrás Hofa of £2 : 13 : 4 has been entirely lost.

The names of only two rectors occur, *e. g.* Robert Pydleston, son of John P., Chancellor of North Wales, and John Chamber, Dean of Westminster in 1529.

## VICARS.

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1373.—EDNYVED <sup>1</sup>          | 1579.—BELLOT, Hugh, D.D. <sup>7</sup>     |
| 1467.—KYFFIN, John <sup>2</sup>     | 1592.—PARRY, Richard, A.M. <sup>8</sup>   |
| 1537.—AP HOWELL, David <sup>3</sup> | 1609.—PRICE, Foulk, B.D. <sup>9</sup>     |
| 1540.—WHITE, William <sup>4</sup>   | 1613.—LLOYD, Richard, B.D. <sup>10</sup>  |
| 1560.—AP JOHN, David <sup>5</sup>   | 1614.—ROBERTS, Hugh, A.M.                 |
| 1565 ?—EDWARDS, Thomas              | 1635.—LLOYD, Samuel, A.M. <sup>11</sup>   |
| 1566.—BRERETON, Thomas <sup>6</sup> | .—JENKINS, — <sup>12</sup>                |
| 1577.—HUGHES, Bp. in Comm.          | 1663.—LLOYD, Humphrey, D.D. <sup>13</sup> |

<sup>1</sup> Witness to the will of Bishop Llewelyn ap Madoc.

<sup>2</sup> Hengwrt MSS.

<sup>3</sup> Canon and V. Llanbryamair, 1535.

<sup>4</sup> Canon, 1546.

<sup>5</sup> Canon, 1564.

<sup>6</sup> Of Borrás. V. Northop, 1539; S. R. Llandrinio, 1557; S. R. Cilcain, 1564.

<sup>7</sup> Of Moreton, Cheshire. Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge; R. Tydd, St. Giles, 1571; R. Doddington, 1572; S. R. Caerwys, 1584; Bishop of Bangor, 1585; translated to Chester, 1595. Effigy in Wrexham Church. He was one of the translators of the Bible into English.

<sup>8</sup> Dean of Bangor, 1599; Bishop of St. Asaph, 1604. He brought out, in 1620, a new edition of Bishop Morgan's Welsh translation, which is practically the standard version of the present day.

<sup>9</sup> On the presentation of King James. R. Cerrigydrudion, 1597-1614; Preb. Llanfair, 1609; R. Llandrinio, 1613; S. R. Cwm, 1616.

<sup>10</sup> V. Abergelge and Canon, 1611-13; R. Marchwiall, 1614; V. Rhuabon and S. R. Llansannan, 1617; S. R. Ysgeifiog, 1621.

<sup>11</sup> Son of Richard Lloyd, B.D. S. R. Llansannan, 1643; S. R. Cilcain, 1644; R. Aldford. Deprived by parliamentary sequestrators.

<sup>12</sup> Ejected in 1662, but afterwards conformed.

<sup>13</sup> Son of Richard and brother of Samuel. V. Rhuabon, 1646. Deprived after the Restoration. S. R. Northop, 1661; Canon, 1663; Dean, 1663; Bishop of Bangor, 1673.



- 1689.—MARSH, Narcissus,<sup>1</sup> D.D. 1764.—NEWCOME, Henry, A.M.<sup>4</sup>  
 1690.—WYNNE, Robert, B.D.<sup>2</sup> 1803.—HORSELEY, H., M.A.<sup>5</sup>  
 1743.—JONES, Hugh, A.M.<sup>3</sup>

1847.—WICKHAM, Robert, M.A., Christ Church, Oxford; 2nd Cl. Litt. Hum., 1823; and B.A. 1824; Deac., 1825; Pr., 1826; Chaplain to Bp. Short, 1847; Archdeacon of St. Asaph and Residentiary Canon, 1854; Author of *Is the Offertory without the Communion required by the Church*, 1844; *The Rubrics of the Communion Service Examined*, 1845; *Ten Sermons on the Lord's Prayer*, 1871; and several *Archidiaconal Charges*.

### GWERSYLLT.

THIS district, formed by an Order in Council, Nov. 1851, comprises the township of Gwersyllt in Gresford and a portion of Stansty in Wrexham, with a total area of 2,176 a. 3 r. 5 p., and a population of 2,144.

The endowment consisted at first of the vicarial tithe rentcharge of Gwersyllt township, £81 : 17 : 6, transferred by the vicar, and an annual grant of £40 made by the dean and chapter of Winchester, as impropiators of the rectorial tithes, for which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have substituted a rectorial tithe rentcharge upon Gwersyllt and Llay, amounting to £271 : 17 : 11. There is also a house purchased in 1851 for £627 : 7 : 6, and six acres of glebe.<sup>6</sup> Patron, the Vicar of Gresford.

The Church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is in the Early English style from the designs of Mr. Thomas Penson and comprises chancel and nave, with a tower at the north-east angle, surmounted by a spire, of which the base forms the vestry, the chief entrance being through the south porch. The foundation stone was laid by Mrs. Williams of Gwersyllt Park, July 13, 1850, and it was consecrated July 25, 1851.<sup>7</sup> The chancel, which is furnished for the choir, and

<sup>1</sup> Bishop of Ferns and Leighlin, 1690; Archbishop of Cashel, 1690; Dublin, 1694; Armagh, 1702. See p. 252.

<sup>2</sup> Chancellor of the diocese, 1690. P. 240.

<sup>3</sup> R. Llanferras, 1725; Canon, 1739; chaplain to Bishop Maddox.

<sup>4</sup> Fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge. R. Castle Caereinion, 1761-1804. Chaplain to his uncle, Bishop Newcome.

<sup>5</sup> Son of the Bishop. Preb. Llanfair and V. Chirk, 1803-4; R. Castle Caereinion, 1804-47. Resided in Edinburgh!

<sup>6</sup> Five of these were given in augmentation of the living, by Archdeacon Wickham, in 1861.

<sup>7</sup> A circular issued by Rev. J. Vaughan Lloyd, curate of Gresford in 1845, states that £500 had been promised by one individual, and £100 by two others; but nothing was carried out then.

has an organ chamber on the north side, has also an arcaded reredos with its nine panels illuminated on zinc. The east window of three lights has the Ascension in the centre, the Baptism and Last Supper on either side, and the evangelistic and other sacred emblems in the tracery. That on the south has the Virgin and St. John, and is memorial to Ellen Kirk, 1827, æt. 82; and Richard Kirk, 1839, æt. 92. The pulpit and desk, standing on either side of the chancel arch, are of Caen stone panelled and carved. The font, also of Caen stone, is supported on clustered shafts, and has its alternate panels carved



with a lily cruciform. There are several painted windows by Wailes, two representing respectively St. Simeon and St. Anna, in memory of Thomas Penson, 1858; and a third, the Good Shepherd, to the departed children of the said Thomas and Frances Penson, enumerated on an adjoining brass. Feeding the hungry and clothing the naked form the subject of the two lights at the west end. The cost of the building and walling was £2,197,<sup>1</sup> exclusive of the site for church

<sup>1</sup> The cost of church, parsonage, and school, was £3,833:9:10; the principal subscribers to which were, G. A., £500; Diocesan Church Building

and school, presented by Rev. R. Wickham,<sup>1</sup> communion plate and east window by Mrs. Williams of Gwersyllt Hall, south chancel window by Mrs. T. Penson, font by Mrs. R. Wilbraham, corona, pulpit and desk lights by Mrs. Humble, chancel seats by Mr. Irven of Stansty, etc.

A mixed national school was built in 1851 at a cost of £552:19:6 (£100 being invested in land towards its endowment). In 1858 a class-room was added on, and a separate girls' school with class-room, also an infant school, built at a total cost of £1,304 8s.; £222 5s. were invested at the same time by Mr. Irven in Mersey Dock Bonds towards the endowment of the infant school, which was further enlarged in 1872.

At "Croes y Street" a small school to accommodate eighty children was built in 1873, at a cost of £310; the site given by Mr. Irven. Sunday-school and divine service are also regularly held in it.

#### VICARS.

1852.—EDWARDS, R. W., M.A.<sup>2</sup> 1858.—JONES, Jenkin<sup>3</sup>

1868.—ELLIS, Rowland, M.A.<sup>4</sup>

1872.—SMITH, Edward Braithwaite, M.A., Brasenose Coll., Oxford; Deacon, 1853; Pr., 1854; Curate of Huntley, 1853-6; Thruxton and Kingston, 1856-8; Gresford, 1858-72.

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#### ROSSET.<sup>5</sup>

THIS district, formed out of the parish of Gresford, according to the first Order in Council, 20th June, 1840, comprised the townships of Allington, Burton, and Marford and Hoseley; but after the formation of the Gwersyllt district it was modified in 1857, so as to embrace only a portion of those townships with an area reduced from 6,780 a. 2 r. 35 p. to 4,483 acres; present population 1,500.

The endowment consists of the interest of £1,000 in Three per Cents., given by John Townshend, Esq., of Trevalyn (£30), the rectorial tithes of Burton, commuted at £275, added by the Ecclesiastical

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Society, £400; Bishop Short, Dean and Chapter of Winchester, and Queen Anne's Bounty, £200; Incorporated Church Building Society, £170; Ecclesiastical Commissioners, £150; Rev. R. Wickham, £140:19:8; Mrs. Williams, £125 + £100 for school endowment; Sir W. W. Wynn, £125; Marquis of Westminster, £110; Lord Kenyon, late J. Williams, Esq., and Mr. Egerton, £100; offertory on consecration, £93:1:5; Committee of Council, for School, £87; National Society, £40; Colonel Wilbraham, T. Penson, and W. T. Parkins (Treasurer), £50; Sir R. A. Cunliffe, £45; etc.

<sup>1</sup> Purchased with £400 from dilapidations for old vicarage house.

<sup>2</sup> R. Llanfihangel, 1858; V. Meifod, 1860; Canon Residentiary, 1871.

<sup>3</sup> P. C. Gwernaffield, 1850-8; R. Cerrigydrudion, 1868.

<sup>4</sup> V. Mold, 1872.

<sup>5</sup> "Y Rhosydd," *i. e.*, "the Marshes."



Commissioners in 1869, and pew rents about £50. There is also a house, erected in 1866, and four acres of glebe. It is in the patronage of trustees, of whom the representative of Mr. Townshend is always to be one.

Christ Church<sup>1</sup> was erected in 1841, at a cost of £2,577 : 6 : 12 upon a site presented by Mr. James BoydeU. It is a plain structure with a western bell turret, the east window consisting of five lancets.

There is a school at "Lavister," erected in 1846, in which divine service is held on Wednesday evenings, but the room is not licensed.

The school at Rosset was built in 1859.

#### VICARS.

1841.—STONE, George Luther, B.A., Trin. Coll., Dublin<sup>3</sup>

1863.—WICKHAM, Thomas Vowler, M.A., Christ Ch., Oxford ; Deacon and Pr., 1860 ; Curate of Rhuabon, 1860-3.

#### HOLT.

ALTHOUGH there is now no great "Wood" to attest the appropriateness of this Anglo-Saxon name, its former existence is sufficiently corroborated by such local nomenclature as the parks, the common wood, and Isycoed (below the wood). In legal documents, however, it bears also another name, "Lyon" or "Lions," which is doubtless a corrupt version of "Lleon," *i. e.*, "Castra Legionum, the Camp of the Legions, in Welsh Caer Lleon, and more recently Castell Lleon.<sup>4</sup> Ecclesiastically it has been regarded as embracing the chapelry of Isycoed, and to have been itself an outlying member of Gresford. Bishop Gastrell in his MS. *Notitia of the diocese of Chester*, c. 1718, states that "the tithes of this place were granted to the Knights of St. John of Jeru-

<sup>1</sup> There was anciently a chapel of ease called "The Boardland Chapel."

<sup>2</sup> Towards this £200 were given by the Diocesan Church Building Society ; £100 each by the Dean and Chapter of Winchester, Sir W. W. Wynn, and Mrs. Barker of Llindir ; £50 by Earl Grosvenor, John BoydeU, J. Griffith of Alveston, Hugh Jones of Larkhill, C. K. Mainwaring, proprietors of Trevalyn Hall (Miss Townshend and C. Townshend, Esq.) ; the balance, £329 : 6 : 10, by J. Townshend, Esq., Treasurer.

<sup>3</sup> Author of *Letters to the Hon. and Rev. Geo. Spencer ; Letter to Daniel O'Connell, Esq. ; The Doctrine of the Church of England, contrasted with the Church of Rome, on the Lord's Supper ; Sermon on Romish Miracles ; The Papal Aggression ; Letter to Lord Feilding,—All Pure Prophecy fulfilled in the Advent of Christ and the Establishment of Christianity*, etc.

<sup>4</sup> The remains of very early earthworks, the discovery of Roman coins, and the line of the old Roman road from Uriconium (Wroxeter) to Deva (Chester), favour this view. Probably this, rather than Chester, was the "Caerlegion" of Bede's *Ecclesiastical History*, book ii, ch. ii, s. 94.

saalem, and purchased by the Dean and Chapter of Winchester."<sup>1</sup> An early lease, however, of the rectorial tithes of Gresford takes no account of any such impropriation, but provides that the lessee "shall fynde an able and suffyceyent preest to serve and kepe the cure at Holt (being a member or chappel of the said parsonage) to syng and say dyvyne syrvyce dayly and ther to mynyster dyvyne sacraments and sacramentalls to the parishioners ther inhabyting."<sup>2</sup> To the same purport Leland writes of it, "The Holt is a praty riche Walsche towne, governed by a maire, having ons a yere a fair, but surely now no celebrate market. Yn it is a praty chirch and a goodly castel. The chirch is but a chapel to Gresford," and to the same effect follow Browne Willis, Bishop Tanner, etc., and the Tithe Commissioners who commute its townships under Gresford, with which parish it was no doubt appropriated to the Dean and Chapter of Winchester in 1548.<sup>3</sup> The said tithes for Holt and Holt Parks' district were valued by them at £503 to the dean and chapter, and £18 7s. to the vicar of Gresford. The incumbent's income meanwhile arose from grants of £200 each, made by Queen Anne's Bounty to meet similar benefactions, in 1725 by Sir Richard Grosvenor and others; in 1827 by the Rev. J. R. Edwards, incumbent; and in 1828 by the Dean and Chapter of Winchester; these sums were invested in the purchase of 50 acres of land in Allington and 3 acres in Holt; rental £50, to which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have added an augmentation of £297 out of the tithe rentcharge. As the income did not depend upon the parochial tithes, but upon the importance of the town and castle of Holt, and Holt was pre-eminently an English fortress borough, the ecclesiastical jurisdiction followed the civil regime of its Lords from the grant of Edward the Confessor, down through the Warrens, Fitzalans, and Stanleys to the late territorial exchange, by which, in 1861, it was transferred from the see of Chester to St. Asaph, the patronage still remaining in the Dean and Chapter of Winchester.

The area of the district is 2,730 acres, its rateable value £5,508; the inhabited houses 210, and population 1,056.

The Church, St. Chad's, belongs to the same period and follows the same plan as Gresford, though much less rich and elaborate, viz., a chancel with north and south chantries<sup>4</sup> of two bays, a nave with aisles of five bays and a fine western tower. The general character is late perpendicular; but the tower is of earlier date, and the sharply pointed arches of the nave and aisles appear to have belonged to such an edifice, the easternmost arches of which were removed on the enlargement of the chancel. Subsequent alterations and neglect,

<sup>1</sup> Diocesan Registry, Chester.

<sup>2</sup> *Suprà*, p. 805.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Thos. Billot, lessee of the rectorial tithes of Gresford in 1529, was also farmer of the property of the *Hospital of St. John at Chester*, and this may have misled Bishop Gastrell.

<sup>4</sup> "A confirmation of the right of Bostock and Crue to an oratory or chapel in this church, an. 1604." R. B. 2, p. 252.—Bishop Gastrell's MS. *Notitia*.

however, had reduced the church to a sad state of dilapidation, when in 1871 the work of thorough restoration was taken in hand, and being completed in 1873, the church was re-opened on Tuesday, Sept. 9th. This restoration comprised the renewing of the old oak panelled roof, the portion above the sacrarium being very elaborate, and the completion of the stone groining of the tower, the relaying of the floors throughout, and reseating the nave, new screens to divide the chancel from the nave and chantries, refurnishing the choir with oak stalls, renovating the windows and walls, etc. The outlay was upwards of £4,000, of which £669 were contributed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for the restoration of the chancel,<sup>1</sup> which was carried out under the direction of Mr. Ewan Christian, the remainder of the work being done by Mr. Douglas of Chester. The screen is in five bays, the upper part filled with tracery and ending with carved crockets and finials; and some of the old bosses have been replaced in the new roof. The octagonal font has its panels carved with shields of the Warrens and others, and its under part with grotesque figures. The capital of one of the eastern half pillars being set, not above it, but on one side, is supposed to indicate that the bishop of the diocese died or was translated during the progress of the work;<sup>2</sup> if so, then the mitred head forming one of the bench ends acquires additional interest. In the north or Crue Chapel there is an interesting brass by that famous engraver Silvanus Crue to Thomas Crue, whose name is supplied by an acrostic,<sup>3</sup> ob. 1666. In the south are the remains of an early piscina. Over the four-centered south door is a panel of the temptation of Eve, in the spandrel a shield of the royal arms,<sup>4</sup> and in the moulding of the jamb an episcopal figure.

The Free School, built about 1661, was founded by Mr. Griffith

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<sup>1</sup> Of the remainder, £800 were obtained by the issue of twenty-five thousand circulars; £200 given by the Dowager Marchioness of Westminster, and £100 by the Marquis; £90 St. Asaph Church Building Society; £50 Bishop Short, Sir W. W. Wynn, and Mr. Townshend Mainwaring. To the Rev. W. Jones, curate and treasurer, the chief honour of this work is due.

<sup>2</sup> *Journal of Historic Society of Chester*, iv, p. 440.

<sup>3</sup> "The life of man incessantly from ye wombe  
Hasteneth both day and night unto ye tombe.  
Of mortall life, when once ye thred is spunne,  
Man has a life im'ortal then begunne.  
A wise man dying lives, and living dies.  
Such was ye man yt here intombed lies.  
Careful he lived, God's sacred lawes to keepe  
Religiously untill yt death or sleepe  
Unto a happy life his soule did bringe,  
Ending this life to live with Christ our King."

<sup>4</sup> Three fleurs-de-lis, 1 and 4, three lions passant, 2 and 3, being the royal arms from about 1405-1603.



Roberts, who by his will in 1664 bequeathed for its endowment certain lands in Holt, about 18 acres; to which in 1728 Lady Dorothy Jeffreys of Acton added the interest of £30, and there were two other sums of £50, unknown.

The other charities comprise—

1. £2 12s. rentcharge by Valentine Broughton of Chester, 1603, for bread.

2. £2 12s. on two acres, by Thomas Forster, 1675, ditto.

3. 10s. on Mill Hay, by Robert Whitby, ditto.

4. Ditto, moiety, with Wrexham, of lands called Barber's charity.

5. Ditto, rent of 2 acres, Poor's Croft, by — Powell, 1706.

6. £2 : 13 : 4 charged on Poor's Croft, by John Cowles.

7. Ditto, rent of Cae Perllan, bought in 1716, with a portion of Samuel Hignett's bequest of £159, one moiety.

8. Ditto, interest of £45 (£50-leg. duty) by Mrs. Gartside, 1818.

9. Ditto, rent of The Six Acres (8 acres) bequeathed in 1705 by Rev. Daniel Brown for four poor widows.

10. Ditto, interest of £200 Three per Cents., by John Brown of Fulham, 1822.

*Lost*.—1. A cottage, by Griffith Roberts, in Pepper Street, probably converted into a poor house.

2. Bequest of £20, by Lydia Peck, between Holt and Iscoed.

3. 10s. per annum, by Roger Rowland.<sup>1</sup>

#### PERPETUAL CURATES, NOW VICARS.

1663.—BOWRY, John

1754.—GLEAVE, John

1668.—JEFFREYS, William<sup>2</sup>

1756.—EVANS, Evan

1675.—BROWN, Daniel

1756.—HALLOWAY, Daniel

1705.—ADAMS, John<sup>3</sup>

1763.—MAURICE, Edward

1748.—NICHOLS, William<sup>4</sup>

1779.—WHIGHTON, C. Allanson

17 .—WILKINSON, Joseph

1825.—EDWARDS, John Robert, M.A., Pembroke Coll., Oxford, Fellow; Deacon, 1815; Pr., 1816.

<sup>1</sup> Bishop Gastrell also has £3 per annum by Joan Roydon for bread; 5s. by Mrs. Read. An. 1624, order for payment of bequest to the poor by Dame Mary Egerton of Ridley; and 1640, memorandum for calling upon churchwardens of Farndon to account for legacy left by Robt. Woodward.

<sup>2</sup> Name entered in Register by "John Hughes, schoolmaster and reader."

<sup>3</sup> "Parish choose their minister with the approbation of ye Bishop. Popular election of a curate (styled 'Nominatio Joan. Adams,' etc.), an. 1705, disapproved by ye Bishop."—Gastrell's *Notitia*.

<sup>4</sup> By gift of the Dean of Winchester.

## IS-Y-COED.

THIS ecclesiastical district, formerly regarded as a portion of Holt, and both of them as outlying members of Gresford (as has been shown under the respective parishes) has been constituted an independent cure, and comprises the townships of Caca Dutton, Dutton Diffaith, Dutton y Brain, Ridley, and Sutton, with an area of 3,397 acres, rateable value £4,050, and a population of 457.

Bishop Gastrell, in 1718, certified "that nothing certain belongs to it, but ye minister of Holt has £2 per ann. subscribed by ye inhabitants of ye five townships for preaching there once a month." Grants, however, were made to it by Queen Anne's Bounty of £200 each by Lot in 1733, 1749, 1757, 1796, and 1813; another of the same amount in 1837, to meet a payment of £15 by the Dean and Chapter of Winchester; and two others, viz. £200 in 1810, and £1,000 in 1827 respectively, out of the Parliamentary fund. Of these sums, amounting in all to £2,400, a portion was invested in the purchase of glebe lands, 12 acres in Holt and 3 in Isycoed. And in 1870 the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, as successors to the Dean and Chapter of Winchester, transferred, in lieu of all other payments, the tithes of Sutton, Dutton Diffaith, and Dutton y Brain, commuted at £330, for its endowment. The vicarage house was built in 1842 at a cost of £490. The jurisdiction has been transferred from Chester to the bishop of this diocese, but the patronage remains in the Dean and Chapter of Winchester.

The Church, St. Paul's, was rebuilt in 1829 to replace the previous one erected in 1742. It is small and unpretending without any features requiring notice; the cost of its erection was £700, towards which the Incorporated Church Building Society granted £200.

The school was built in 1834.

The parish has a share, with Holt, in the four following charities:

1. John Brown's benefaction, 1822, £1 : 13 : 4.
2. Valentine Broughton, 1603, for bread, £2 12s.
3. Rev. Dan. Brown's, 1705, for poor widow, £1 : 13 : 4.
4. Mr. Samuel Hignett's bequest, moiety of, £4 : 17 : 6.
5. A rentcharge, by Mary Sadler, upon lands in the parish, 10s.

The report also mentions £20 by unknown benefactor,<sup>1</sup> expended on the rebuilding of the chapel in 1742, and 20s. allowed out of the rates thereon, now lost; as also is Lydia Peck's 8s. per annum.

## VICARS.

1827.—REYNOLDS, Henry, St. Bees, died 1862; buried here.

1862.—GOBAT, Samuel Benoni, B.A., Trin. Coll., Oxford.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Left by El. Sparrow, £1 per annum."—Bishop Gastrell.

<sup>2</sup> Tylorian Scholar, 1859; C. Romsey, 1860-62; V. Seaforth, 1873, but died before entering upon it. Buried here.

1873.—BANKS, Edward, B.A., New Inn Hall, Oxford, 2nd Cl. Math.; 1852; Deac., 1854; Pr., 1855; C. Hyde, 1854-6; Fordingbridge, 1856-60; R. Ergham and Dom. Chaplain to Earl of Normanton, 1860-67; R. Buttermere, Wilts, 1867-9; V. Charlton, All Saints, dioc. Sarum and Dom. Chaplain to Earl Nelson, 1869-73.

### HANMER.<sup>1</sup>

THE townships of this parish, which are six in number, embrace an area of 14,722 a. 2 r. 14 p., of the rateable value of £19,611 6s., with 511 inhabited houses, and a population of 2,428. Out of these, however, must be deducted the ecclesiastical district of Bronington or new Fenns formed in 1836; and to the spiritual provision must now be added the new church at Talarn Green, licensed for divine service in 1873, and another at Bettisfield awaiting consecration.

Whatever be the true origin and meaning of the name,<sup>2</sup> it is evident that this place must have been from very early times one of much importance. Two great Roman roads, the one from Uriconium (Wroxeter) to Deva (Chester), a branch of the famous "Watling Street," the other from Bangor Isycoed to Eglwys y Groes and Whitchurch, crossed each other within the parish at a place thence, and still called Trawstre;<sup>3</sup> and it is likely, from their adjacent earthworks, that here as elsewhere they followed the course of earlier British "Sarns" or trackways. The early Christian missionaries at all events followed the old Roman lines; and we have not only the famous foundation of Bangor close by, but also within the parish an "Eglwys-y-Groes," or Church of the Cross, upon the side of the Watling Street; it is also worthy of notice that coins of Constantine the Great have been dug up on the very spot. And although other missionary stations are also indicated in such names as Maes-y-Groes in Iscoed, Tanygroes near the village, and probably also Llynnybedydd,<sup>4</sup> the distinctive title of this one implies that it had what they had not, viz. a church or oratory attached to it. These stations were served at first most likely by members of the great collegium at Bangor; and after its destruction, and the formation of this parish (which were probably contemporaneous), they naturally fell within its cure. The preponderating influence of the Lord of Bettisfield seems, however, by

<sup>1</sup> I am indebted, for most of my information about this parish, to the Rev. M. H. Lee, who is working up its history very thoroughly and efficiently.

<sup>2</sup> The latter part is evidently the "mere", or beautiful lake near the church; but the "Han" is likely to be long *sub judice*.

<sup>3</sup> The vill or township of the "Crossing".

<sup>4</sup> "The lake of baptism." So, too, Llys y Bedydd. Other derivations, however, are suggested, as Bedwydd, "the birches"; Abadoed, "the abbots"; to which Bettws may be added.



degrees to have led to his assuming something more than his just share of power. For in the Domesday record of this manor there are complaints on the part of the Bishop of Lichfield, in whose diocese it lay, that certain lands had been taken away from the see and retained ever since the days of Canute.<sup>1</sup> In the adjoining manor of Burwardestone<sup>2</sup> the same bishop possessed one and a-half hide of land and one salt-pit.<sup>3</sup>

The first notice of the appropriation of the church appears to be the grant of a moiety thereof, and one carucate of land in Agatonia (Halghton), by Robert Fitz Simon<sup>4</sup> to the canons of the Augustinian Abbey of Haghmond, founded by William Fitz Alan of Clun, A.D. 1110. The next step was probably the grant of the other moiety, for in King Henry's concession and in Bishop Richard's confirmation, the church, and not the moiety, is spoken of.<sup>5</sup> The latter, moreover, recites the grounds of the appropriation to have been the smallness of the income of the canons and their want of food, which necessitated their travelling about the country to beg their bread when they ought to be attending to contemplation and prayer,<sup>6</sup> and it adds that the confirmation was made at the instance of King Henry and Prince David. This was David ap Owen Gwynedd, who married Emma, King Henry's sister, and the episcopate that of Richard Peche, so that we get A.D. 1161-1183 as the date of this appropriation.

In the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas, A.D. 1291, I can find no mention of the place, but the next notice that occurs is the license of Edward III in 1342 to Roger Le Straunge, Lord of Knockin, Clun and Maelor

<sup>1</sup> "De hoc manerio calumpniatur Ep'us de Cestre 11 hidas quas tenebat Sanctus Cedd tempore C'nuti regis sed ex tunc usque modo se plangit amisisse."

<sup>2</sup> Eyton identifies this with Burton; but probably it is the same with Ty broughton, in which Eglwys y Groes stands, i. e., "Berg-wards-Weston" this last being the Saxon name of Whitchurch.

<sup>3</sup> From the monastic possessions of Haghmond, in 1291, it appears to have had in Chester archdeaconry £10 spiritualities, and a "salina" or salt-pit at Wiche in Iscoyd, probably the very one referred to here.

<sup>4</sup> "Ex dono Roberti filii Simonis advocac'onem medietatis eccl'ie de hanmere et unam carucatam terre in Agatonia de laico feodo."—*Haghmond Chartulary*.

<sup>5</sup> "Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse in liberam puram et p'petuam eleemosynam canonicis tribus hamonensis eccl'ie ad sustentac'o'em eorum eccl'iam de hanmere." The King's witnesses are Ric. de Luci, Hugo de Laci, Robert Marmion, etc.—*Ibid*.

<sup>6</sup> "Tres regulares p'o modicitate possessionu' et defectu victualiu' non vacant contemplacoi' ut debent sed discurrunt p' patriam p'o necessariis vite eor' querend' et id ad petic'o'e' Dom' Henrici Regis et David Principis eccl'iam parochialem de Hanmara nunc vacantem S'c'o Monasterio de Haghmon et fr'ibus viii Deo servientibus et servituris appropriamus."—*Ibid*.

Saesneg to grant to the Abbot and Convent of Haghmon the advowson of the Church of Hanmer, "que-de nobis tenetur in capite."

The grant itself is written in Norman French, dated at Ellesmere in the (blank) year of Edward III, the sixth after the conquest (of France), 1352, and contains the proviso, "that the abbot within one month after he has had possession of the said church shall raise such sum out of the moneys arising from the profits thereof, or out of the acres of land contained in the enclosure and glebe, as that the said convent may maintain for us and ours a perpetual chantry where they shall be mindful of us in their devotions and prayers." There occurring a vacancy at this time in the cure, through the death of John Ondelowe, King Edward, pro hac vice, presented to it John de Brimh'm, A.D. 1349.<sup>1</sup>

The next step in the history was a dispute between the abbot and Richard Le Straunge concerning the advowson in 1422. The abbot complained that some predecessor of the said Richard had unjustly deprived him of his rights, and pleads the grant of Henry III (Henricus fil Johannis) to Abbot William of "ecclia de Hanmere in Maillor Saisnek in com. de flynt;" and the verdict was given in his favour. But there are some points which render this authority very questionable. It was not Henry III but Henry II who made the grant, which Bishop Richard confirmed and gave possession thereof to Abbot William; and there appears to be some uncertainty as to both the nature and the extent of the donation itself. For the original grant was of one moiety, and it is probable, although not so specified, that the subsequent confirmation had reference to that moiety only, and that there was another portion under different patronage, as might well be in a collegiate church; and it is further noticeable that henceforth there is a difference in the title of the incumbent. The general result, however, was a compromise. The Abbot secured the advowson, and John Hanmer, armiger, quit-claimed to him all his right<sup>2</sup> in the patronage; but received at the same time the nomination of the vicar, and the abbot bound himself to present such nominee to the bishop. Another condition of the compromise was that a payment of 10s. per annum should be made by the new vicar David to the Archdeacon of Chester, "cui fructus et proventus dicte ecclesie durante vacacione ejusdem debentur;" and a third that so long as the abbot should continue to pay the life pension of £23 : 6 : 8 assigned to Richard Colfox, the late parson, the vicar should not receive more than ten marcs, £6 : 13 : 4; but that the abbot should have the surplus and also recover from the aforesaid John Hanmer a parcell of land called Nonne-Croft."<sup>3</sup> It is noticeable, however, that a condition here represented as provisional was turned by the abbot into a rule, and that in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, 1535, the vicarage is still returned at

<sup>1</sup> Lichfield Registers.

<sup>2</sup> Not certain whether a family right, or as representative of the Straunges.

<sup>3</sup> *Haghmond Chartulary*.

£6:13:4, whilst the surplus went to the abbot and his monastery. On the dissolution of Haghmond its property and rights here were purchased by Sir Thomas Hanmer, in whose descendants the impropriation and the patronage still continue. One of the family, Sir John Hanmer, in 1624 bequeathed the corn tithes of Bettisfield to a learned and painful preacher, who should preach twice every sabbath day in the parish church,<sup>1</sup> but they have long been withheld.<sup>2</sup> Another member, viz. Sir Thomas Hanmer, in 1721 gave £200 to procure an equal sum, in augmentation of the vicarage, from Queen Anne's Bounty, and the whole was invested in the purchase of the farm on Horsemoor Green, which had been previously occupied by some of the vicars, and is still sometimes called the Old Vicarage; it comprises 41 acres and is rented at £61 10s. per annum. A comparison of the present value of the tithes as commuted, with their value in the beginning of the last century,<sup>3</sup> shows a curious change in the value of money.

Townships.	Area.			Impropriated.									Vicarial.								
	A.	R.	P.	1718.			1844.			1718.			1844.								
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.						
Bettisfield	2284	1	13	...	8	18	3	...	248	13	0	...	...	71	7	0					
Bronington	4850	3	14	...	9	3	4	...	237	11	6	...	...	76	2	6					
Halghton	2313	3	38	...	6	17	9	...	104	9	0	...	...	55	15	0					
Hanmer	2247	3	33	...	9	12	9	...	183	2	6	...	...	67	7	0					
Tybroughton	1150	3	33	...	3	15	5	...	105	7	0	...	...	33	19	0					
Willington	1874	2	3	...	5	1	11	...	161	4	0	...	...	46	6	0					
	14722	2	14		£43	9	5		£1039	7	0		£6	13	4	£350	16	6			

From the vicarial tithes must, however, now be deducted £50 per annum, transferred in 1852 out of the tithes of Bronington; and the remaining £26:2:6 in 1867, together with the farm called "The Friar's Grange,"<sup>4</sup> transferred the same year; all of which have been given up by the vicars for the endowment of Bronington. The vicarage house was purchased from the Bateman family by Sir Thomas Hanmer in 1829, and made over in 1831 by the present patron, now Lord Hanmer. The ecclesiastical jurisdiction, formerly belonging to the see of Chester, was transferred in 1849 to the Bishop of St. Asaph.

The church, dedicated after St. Chad, whose festival was observed on March 2, comprises nave with north and south aisles of four bays; the easternmost on the north side forming the Fenns, and that on

<sup>1</sup> Terriers of Hylton, 1705; and Ravenscroft, 1783; and Bishop Gastrell's *Notitia*; Charity Commissioners' Report, 1837. Failing this application of them for any sufficient reason, they were to be applied to the education of poor scholars, from this parish, at the Universities, or for an apprentice-fund.

<sup>2</sup> They were enjoyed for some years by Vicar Porter.

<sup>3</sup> Gastrell was Bishop of Chester, 1713-26. His *Notitia* is dated 1718.

<sup>4</sup> Acquired for the vicarage under the Enclosure Act of 1772. Rent, £36:17:6.



the south the Bettisfield Chapel or Chantry; a chancel added in 1720, in lieu of a previous apse;<sup>1</sup> and a western tower. The general character of the church is Perpendicular; but the clustered pillars of the nave-arcading are Early English, being fragments of the older church, which was greatly damaged during the Wars of the Roses,<sup>2</sup> and rebuilt in the time of Henry VII. In the *Beaufort Progress through Wales*, made in 1684,<sup>3</sup> there are some very interesting notices of painted glass then existing in the church: *e. g.*, inscription in north window, in old English letters, "Orate pro bono statu d'ni Thome Hanmere Militis et d'ne Matilde uxoris sue qui istam fenestram fieri fecit a'o D'ni mccccxxxiii." "Ye middle window in ye north aisle, in ye glass hath ye painting of St. George and ye painting of bones. This north aisle is admirable for its roof of timber carved. The pulpit carrieth this inscription in Roman capital letters, 'Christus est Agnus Dei qui tollit peccata mundi.' The east window of this aisle hath painted in it St. Michael the Archangel contending with the Devil, St. Michael clad with a robe of purple; and the remainder, of one of this family in his coat-armour. Window in north aisle, ..... 'Armigeri et pro bono statu Margaret uxoris sue ... ccccc'... In Sir John Hanmer's chancell window, being the east window of the south isle (where are his pew and vault) is seen ye painting of one in episcopal habit, with his crozier or staff (*baculus pastoralis*). There is a figure there, supposed to be the representation of an Archbishop of Canterbury (note in ye margin, 'or rather a Bishop of Methe,—Episcop' Midensis,<sup>4</sup>—in Ireland')." Of this glass there is none remaining; but there do survive two chained books which are curiosities now, though common enough in that day, and therefore not noticed in the *Progress*; the one a black-letter copy of Fox's *Book of Martyrs*, with very interesting woodcuts, and the other Jewel's *Apology*.

The chancel, which is modern and poor, is divided from the nave by an iron screen. On the south side is a monument, by J. Bacon, jun., 1806, to Lloyd, Lord Kenyon, Baron of Gredington, Lord Chief Justice of England, who died in 1802, and is represented in his official capacity, with Faith and Justice as his attendants. And a tablet on the north wall commemorates Sir Thomas Hanmer, 1828, and Lady Margaret his wife, 1830. "Eorum animabus propitiatur Deus. Amen."

The nave has an open roof, but plain; and the floor is occupied with pews. The Jacobean pulpit has, in addition to the text already noticed, others in English: *e. g.*, "Take heed how ye hear." "Be ye

<sup>1</sup> In the view given in the *Beaufort Progress* there appears no indication of it, so that it could not have been very large.

<sup>2</sup> The tradition was that it was burnt down; and this is confirmed by traces of fire discovered in 1852, on the removal of the ceiling which concealed the roof.

<sup>3</sup> Privately printed by the present Duke of Beaufort, to whom I am indebted for permission to quote it.

<sup>4</sup> Rather Nicholas Bishop of *Methone* in France.

doers of the Word." "Be swift to hear"; and with the name of "Jesus", the date 1627. The font is modern, an octagonal with quatrefoil panels. At the west end, and opening into it, stands the tower, which was originally intended to have a groined roof, the springers still remaining. The bottom forms the vestry, the second story the belfry, and the topmost contains a peal of six bells (they were four in 1684), one of which was brought from the Abbey, and is said to have been cast in France. The Bettisfield Chantry is divided from the nave and the aisle by an elegant screen and a portion of the beautiful old rood-loft. In the floor are some early encaustic tiles; and upon it rest two very early monuments,<sup>1</sup> viz., a floriated cross inscribed ...."ERTH VOYL ORATE P. E. A."; the other a mailed effigy of "David ab Ma"[doc ap Ririd]. There are also monuments to Sir Thomas Hanmer, Baronet, 1678; and another to Sir Thomas, Speaker of the House of Commons, and editor of a fine edition of Shakespeare, obiit 1746. The windows contain stained glass, "Spe et fide Johannes et Georgiana de Hanmer"; the east window, of five lights, representing the Draught of Fishes, St. Peter sinking, the Crucifixion, Appearance in the Garden, and the Journey to Emmaus; that on the south side, of four lights, the Sacrifice of Isaac, the Agony, St. Paul at Melita, and St. Michael and the Dragon. The roof of this aisle, though good, with quatrefoil panels, and carved corbels to support it, is not equal to the rich and handsome one on the north side. The Fenns Chapel is also divided off by a screen; but this has lost its pristine work and beauty. In it is a slab memorial to "Gulielmus Hanmer de Fens, 1724"; and a tablet to Mrs. Elizabeth Hanmer of Iscoyd, 1777, who is represented as leaning on an urn. A heraldic brass in the aisle commemorates Thomas Probart of Bronington, 1734; and Mary his wife, 1773; and a mural monument to Mary, widow of Lord Kenyon, 1808, represents another Mary sitting at Our Lord's Feet, and is the work also of J. Bacon, jun. There are also two modern brasses in the south-east angle of the nave,—one to John Hanmer, M.A., vicar, 1808-50; the other a portrait-brass to Catherine his widow, ob. 1860.

The "Churchyard Cross" consists of a plain octagon shaft with a Decorated fourteenth century cap, the four faces of which bear sculptured figures much defaced by injury and weather. The eastern face represents the Virgin and Child; the western, the Crucifixion; and on the north and south are mitred figures, intended probably to represent St. Chad, on the north side, the crozier being turned outwards; and St. Dunawd or Dinoh, of Bangor, on the south, his crozier being turned inwards, as that of a mitred abbot. This cross is noticed in a MS. of the eminent bard and herald, Griffith Hiraethog, at Peniarth; but not mentioned in the *Beaufort Progress*. Probably it had been defaced and thrown down, in accordance with the parliamentary order of 1641, and so lay neglected until 1739, when we meet with an entry in the parochial accounts, "For setting ye Cros stright, 10s. 2d."

<sup>1</sup> Discovered on repewing the church in 1858.

The Free School was erected in 1676, at a cost of £71 7s., defrayed by public subscription ; and enlarged in 1873 by the addition of a girls' school, class-room, house, etc., at a further cost of £660, defrayed by the landowners. It has an endowment arising from—1, an estate in Seswick, parish of Bangor, purchased in 1674 for £100,<sup>1</sup> and rented at £30 per ann. ; 2, interest of £100 bequeathed by Mr. William Jennings, of Iscoed, in 1675 ; 3, a rent-charge of 10s. upon Whixall, created by Mr. Benjamin Rodenhurst. Some small benefactions, amounting to £26, were spent on building and repairing the old school.

The charities comprise—

1. Rent-charge on Glyn in Penley, by Dame Kath. Hanmer,<sup>2</sup> 1635, £3.
2. £50 by Joseph Phillips, now on Turnpike Trust, £1 10s.
3. £45 by T. Matthews, now a rent-charge on Bronington Farm, £2 5s.
4. Payment once in every five years, Mrs. Jane Higginson, £6.
5. Rent of farm in Halghton, purchased in 1730 with £576 Consols. Charities,<sup>3</sup> containing 35 acres, £70.

6. Interest of Stock, by Mrs. Anna Edgeworth, 1825, £5.

*Lost*.—1. Rent of land in Althrey, by Rev. Richard Hilton, vicar, 1706. 2. Sum of £30 by Rev. R. Hilton ; £20 by Susannah, his wife ; and £10 by Rev. Richard Edwards. 3. Sum of £50, *i. e.*, £30 by Thomas Minshall, and £10 each by Katherine and Dorothy Eddow, 1659. 4. £20, unknown. 5. Rent-charge by Mr. Joseph Ellis on Hanmer estate, £2. 6. Sum of £45, Anon. 7. Sum of £150, produce of timber-sale ; and £30 by Mrs. Eddowe and Mr. Minshall. This last may have been added to the purchase-money of No. 5.

#### RECTORS.<sup>4</sup>

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1269.—ENGMERE, or Hangmere,<br>Walter de <sup>5</sup>           | —ONDELOWE, J., obiit 1349<br>1349.—BRIMH'M, John de <sup>8</sup> [nus <sup>9</sup> |
| 1284.—MACCLESFIELD, Thomas de,<br>"Clericus Regis" <sup>6</sup> | —HANMER, Matt., Capella-<br>—SMETHCOT, Sir W. Chaplin                              |
| 1313.—UPTON, John de, alias<br>"Goch Cwtta" <sup>7</sup>        | 1395.—CLIFFORD, Walter <sup>10</sup><br>1419.—COLFOX, Richard <sup>11</sup>        |

<sup>1</sup> Of this, £5 each were given by Katherine Eddow and Dorothy Eddow of Halghton, £10 by Thos. Minshall, 100 meres by Roger Billinge of Tybrough-ton, 20 nobles by Rev. Philip Henry of Iscoed, and 20 nobles accrued.

<sup>2</sup> Also £2 thereon to Northop, and £1 to Penley.

<sup>3</sup> Dame Susannah Hanmer, £200 ; Mrs. Catharine Dymoke, £100 ; Mr. John Beddow, £100 ; Mr. Wm. Lloyd of Halghton, £50 ; Mrs. Beatrice Lloyd, his daughter, £40 ; Randle Jennings of Wellington, £10 ; and Unknown, £15. Balance from other charities.

<sup>4</sup> For this list I am indebted to Mr. Lee.

<sup>5</sup> Eyton's *Shropshire*, x, p. 340 ; Owen and Blakeway's *History of Shrews-bury*, and *Llyfr Côch Asaph*, 15A. <sup>6</sup> In a writ of A.D. 1294. (*Gascon Rolls*.)

<sup>7</sup> MSS. of Thos. Salisbury of Erbistock.

<sup>8</sup> *Lichfield Registers*.

<sup>9</sup> Afterwards Abbot of Haghmond.

<sup>10</sup> Rector of Stretton. Exchanged with W. S. (*Eyton's Shropshire*.)

<sup>11</sup> "Ultimus rector." (*Haghmond Chartulary*.)



## VICARS.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1424.—PRYCE, David, A.M. <sup>1</sup>     | 1662.—HILTON, Richard                    |
| —HANMER, Richard <sup>2</sup>             | 1706.—PEMBERTON, John                    |
| —PHILIPS, R., ob. 1563 <sup>3</sup>       | 1729.—LONGFORD, John, M.A.               |
| 1563.—BEDOW, Sir William                  | 1765.—STONES, James, M.A.                |
| 1574.—HANMER, Meredith, D.D. <sup>4</sup> | 1767.—RAVENS-CROFT, John, B.A.           |
| 1584.—LLOYD, Maurice                      | 1788.—HANMER, Graham, B.A. <sup>7</sup>  |
| 1610.—EDWARDS, John                       | 1807.—PARKES, Richard                    |
| 1625.—PORTER, Thomas <sup>5</sup>         | 1808.—HANMER, John, M.A.                 |
| [STEEL, Richard] <sup>6</sup>             | 1850.—BOSCAWEN, W. H., B.A. <sup>8</sup> |

1867.—LEE, Matthew Henry, M.A., Brasenose Coll., Oxford, late Scholar and Hulmeian Exhibitioner; Deac., 1856; Pr., 1857; Cur. of Longsight, Man., 1856; Morland, Carl., 1857.

## TALARN GREEN.

THE Church of St. Mary Magdalen was consecrated on Wednesday, October 20, 1873, as a Chapel of Ease to the parish church of Hanmer. The style is Early English, and the plan comprises an apsidal chancel with a south organ chamber, a nave with north porch, and at the junction of chancel and nave an open timber bell-cot covered with tiles. The material of the building is red sandstone laid in broken courses, with quoins and dressings of Rhuabon stone, the roof being covered with red and blue Staffordshire tiles. The cost, £800, was provided by the Hon. Charlotte Kenyon, and is exclusive of numerous special gifts, *e. g.*, the site by Hon. G. T. Kenyon, organ<sup>9</sup> by Hon. Edward and Henrietta Kenyon, pulpit by Hon. Miss, heating apparatus Hon. Mrs., and plate by Lady Kenyon; the font, circular on clustered marble pillars, by Hon. F. de Grey; altar rails by Rev. G. Arkwright; bell, credence, service, and other books, alms box, etc. Architect, Mr. John Edge, Jun.; brass work, Cox of London; heating apparatus by Haden and Sons.

<sup>1</sup> "Capellanus parochialis." (*Ibid.*) Archdeacon of Chester, 1422-26. (Ormerod.)

<sup>2</sup> Archdeacon of Maelor?

<sup>3</sup> Priest-vicar. Resided in old rectory house.

<sup>4</sup> Son of Thomas Hanmer of Pentrepant. Educated at Oxford. Chaplain of Corpus Christi College, 1567; R. St. Leonard's, Shoreditch; V. Islington, 1583-90; Treasurer of Christ Church, Dublin, c. 1594; ob. 1604. Author of *Tracts against the Jesuits*, 1576; translator of *Ecclesiastical Histories of Eusebius, Socrates, and Evagrius*, 1585; 5th edition in 1650; also of *The Chronicle of Ireland*; *Ephemeris of the Saints of Ireland*, etc. (*Eminent Welshmen.*)

<sup>5</sup> Appointed by Cromwell to Whitechurch.

<sup>6</sup> Ejected, 1662.

<sup>7</sup> V. Sympson, Bucks.

<sup>8</sup> R. Marchwial, 1867.

<sup>9</sup> Built by C. and J. Whiteley, Chester.

## BETTISFIELD.

THIS church, built at the sole costs of Lord Hanmer, but not yet consecrated, is to have a district attached to it, consisting of the greater portion of the township of Bettisfield, in the parish of Hanmer. The style is Decorated, after the designs of Mr. G. E. Street, R.A., and the dedication is to be in the name of St. John the Baptist, thus perpetuating in English an early Welsh name of the district, viz. Llys Bedydd.<sup>1</sup> The plan comprises chancel, sacrarium, nave, and transepts, that on the south side forming the base of the tower, which is surmounted by a spire. The east wall has a reredos of Caen stone, with an inlaid cross of white marble, and the sides flanked with green Minton tiles. Above it is a painted window by Clayton and Bell, illustrative of the Life of Our Lord from His Resurrection to His Ascension. Projecting behind the choir seats on the south of the chancel and divided from them by open screen work is the founder's seat; and on the north side stands the organ chamber and vestry. A low stone screen divides the chancel from the nave, at the north-east point of which stands a handsome stone pulpit. A beautiful lych gate stands at the entrance to the churchyard, which is surrounded by a well walled sunk fence.

BRONINGTON.<sup>2</sup>

THIS ecclesiastical parish was formed out of Hanmer in 1836, and comprises the township of the same name, with an area of 4,850 acres, and a population of 715.

The endowment consists of the vicarial tithes of the township, commuted at £76 : 2 : 6 (of which sum, £50 was transferred by the vicar in 1852, and the remainder added in 1867), a tithe rent-charge of £44 on a farm of Lord Kenyon, the interest of £500 Three per Cent. Consols, bequeathed by Miss Langford; and the rent (£35) of the glebe farm, anciently called "The Friars Grange," containing 35 acres, also transferred by the vicar of Hanmer in 1867: total, £170 : 2 : 6. Patron, Lord Hanmer.

The Chapel of the Holy Trinity was opened for divine service on December 4th, 1836, having been transformed by the addition of two

<sup>1</sup> The *Domesday* form, "Beddesfeld", with which the modern form corresponds, seems, however, more akin to Bettws than Bedydd.

<sup>2</sup> Called also sometimes "New Fenns." This last was the name of one of the chantries in the mother church, which had become a substitute for an early religious foundation believed to have formerly existed here (*Gentleman's Magazine*, 1762, p. 517), and which may be said to be, in one sense, now revived in this modern parish.

transepts and a small tower, at an outlay of £300, out of an old barn into a cruciform church.

The school was built in 1864.

#### INCUMBENTS.

1836.—SIMPSON, Joseph, M.A.<sup>1</sup> 1858.—FELL, Wm. H., B.A.

1838.—HIGGINS, Nathaniel 1860.—ECHLIN, John R., M.A.

1864.—ROBERTS, James Barry, M.A., Trin. Coll., Dublin ad eund. Camb., 1872; Deac., 1860; Pr., 1861; Curate of Malpas, 1860-2; Threapwood, 1862-4.

#### MARCHWIAIL.<sup>2</sup>

THE two townships of Marchwiall and Sontley comprise an area of 3,316 acres, of the rateable value of £5,153, with a population of 681.

Like many others of the surrounding parishes this is supposed, with much reason, to have been at first an outlying member of the great college at Bangor, from which however it must have been early disconnected and become an independent cure. The *Taxatio* has "Ecclesia de Marthwyl taxat' £5 dec. 10s." and the *Valor* gives it as a rectory of the gross value of £13 : 3 : 4, nett £12 : 13 : 4, and tenths to the king £1 : 5 : 4. The Commuted value is £636,<sup>3</sup> besides which there is a house built in 1825, 4½ acres of glebe and four cottages. Patron, the bishop.

The church, dedicated, according to Tanner, to St. Deiniol, Sept. 11th;<sup>4</sup> according to Browne Willis to St. Marcella, Sept. 5, and according to others to St. Marcellus, Oct. 7th, was rebuilt in 1778 by the parishioners,<sup>5</sup> the tower added in 1789, at the costs of Mr. Philip Yorke of Erddig;<sup>6</sup> and a north transept built on in 1829. The windows of the apsidal chancel contain coloured glass, the central one representing the Presentation, Baptism, and Blessing little Children,

<sup>1</sup> Queen's College, Oxon. Second class, Litt. Hum., 1822. V. Holme Cultram, dioc. Carlisle, 1842; V. Tilsworth, dioc. Ely, 1859.

<sup>2</sup> *I. e.*, "the great wythes or oziers."

<sup>3</sup> A portion of the tithes of Moreton Anglicorum, in Rhuabon, was formerly paid to the rector.

<sup>4</sup> This dedication and the name of an adjoining tenement, "Tyddyn Daniel", support the early connection with Bangor; and to the same purport runs Browne Willis' note, that "it was formerly called St. Daniel's Chapel, and belonged to the Monastery of Bangor, and after its destruction took the present name, from the materials of which the former church was built."

<sup>5</sup> "Hasce ædes vetustate dilapidatas restituebant parochiani an'o salutis MDCCCLXXVIII", on south window.

<sup>6</sup> And £50 from Mr. Brown of Marchwiall Hall.



commemoration of the birth of the donor's children, the other two heraldic. A window in the nave, illustrative of the Good Samaritan, by Hardman, is in memory of rector J. H. M. Luxmoore, 1860; another window is filled with eighteen shields of arms and four crests of the Edisburys of Erddig, the Yorkes, and the Custs; the rest have diaper glass. Among the monuments are brasses to Captain Ellis, 1858; rector Luxmoore, 1860; and Henry Bouverie, his second son, 1861; and two emblematic ones, viz., a drooping figure above a serpent coiled round a rose to Anne Jemima Yorke, 1770, æt. 16, and a female mourning over an unstrung harp, lying at the foot of a broken column, to Philip Yorke, author of "The Royal Tribes of Wales," 1804, æt. 61. The new octagonal font was presented by Mr. S. P. Hope of Marchwiall Hall; and the old fashioned but handsome communion plate by Sir John Hill of Sontley, 1731.

A tenement, "Tyddyn Daniel," with 14 a. 0 r. 22 p. was purchased in 1626 in fee from the Crown for the repairs and expenses of the church, to which object the rental is applied.

The National School was erected in 1825 at an outlay of £250, but being both distant from the village, and too small, a new one is now being built nearer the church.

The available charities<sup>1</sup> consist of a tenement adjoining Tyddyn Daniel, 12 a. 2 r. 24 p., left about 1628 for the support of poor persons not receiving parish relief; and of the interest of £4,718 : 4 : 4 Three per Cents., the bequest in 1858 of Captain Thomas David Ellis of Bath.<sup>2</sup> By a scheme of the Charity Commissioners, issued 3rd of June, 1864, a sum not exceeding £25 from the two charities may be applied to the support of a school and the remainder for supporting clothing, coal, sick clubs, relief in kind, apprentice fund or pensions at the discretion of trustees.

#### RECTORS.

1537.—KEY, William	1598.—WILLIAMS, Peter, A.M. <sup>5</sup>
1539.—DAVID AP EDWARD <sup>3</sup>	1614.—LLOYD, Richard, B.D. <sup>6</sup>
1556.—SONTLEY, Hugh, B.A. <sup>4</sup>	1641.—LLOYD, John, A.M. <sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The lost ones comprise £20 by Lady Dorothy Jeffreys of Acton, 1728; and five sums of £5; all laid out on the parish Poor House.

<sup>2</sup> The brass set up by the parishioners to commemorate this munificent bequest states that the will was dated 23 Feb., 1854, and the amount named, £5,000 (upon which £500 was paid in legacy duty), and with the balance the aforesaid Consols were purchased 1 Feb., 1859. Capt. Ellis died 9 May, 1858.

<sup>3</sup> V. Rhuabon, 1539. Deprived. R. Llandegla, 1556.

<sup>4</sup> "Absens. Studet Oxoniæ ad tempus ex licentiâ episcopi." (Return to Archbishop, 1562.)

<sup>5</sup> Canon, 1581; R. Llanerfyl, 1587; Preb. Meifod, 1598; V. Rhuabon, 1600.

<sup>6</sup> R. Trawsfynydd, 1610; Canon, 1611; V. Gresford, 1613.

<sup>7</sup> Son of preceding. Deprived. Restored, and Preb. Llanfair, 1660; Warden of Ruthin, 1663; comportioner of Llansannan and Archdeacon of Merioneth, 1666. Brother of Humphrey Lloyd, Bishop of Bangor, 1673.

- 1668.—HANMER, John  
 1691.—LLOYD, Bp. in Comm.  
 1691.—SMYTHE, Thomas, B.D.<sup>1</sup>  
 1709.—FFOULKES, H., D.D.<sup>2</sup>  
 1749.—ANWYL, Maurice<sup>3</sup>
- 1775.—STRONG, Samuel<sup>4</sup>  
 1816.—LUXMOORE, C. T. C., M.A.<sup>5</sup>  
 1824.—LUXMOORE, J. H. M., M.A.<sup>6</sup>  
 1860.—DONNE, Stephen, M.A.<sup>7</sup>

1867.—BOSCAWEN, William Henry, B.A., Magdalen Hall, Oxford ; Deac., 1846 ; Pr., 1848 ; Curate of Brampton Bryan, 1846-8 : Hanmer, 1848-50 ; V. Hanmer, 1850-67 ; Author of *The Church's Work in Extensive Parishes, illustrated by plans, etc., of Mission Houses.*

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### OVERTON.<sup>8</sup>

THIS parish comprises the townships of Overton Villa, Overton Foreign, and Knolton,<sup>9</sup> embracing an area of 5,095 a. 3 r. 36 p., of the rateable value of £8,081 : 17 : 6, with 292 inhabited houses, and a population of 1,324.

Until the death of the last rector of Bangor in 1867, this parish was only a curacy under that rectory ; but in 1868 it was made, by an Order in Council, a rectory, and endowed with its own tithes, commuted at £551 : 8 : 2.<sup>10</sup> A rectory house was also purchased at a cost of £1,520, the money being borrowed on the living from the Bounty Board. Patron, the Duke of Westminster.

The church, St. Mary's, consists of chancel, nave with north and south aisles, and a western tower, and has lately been restored after the plans of Mr. W. M. Teulon, the general character being Perpendicular, but with one or two features of earlier pointed work. The first step in the work was the rehabilitation of the Hanoverian chancel, which comprised internally the substitution of new seats, floors, win-

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<sup>1</sup> R. Llanferras, 1673 ; V. Chirk, 1680.

<sup>2</sup> R. St. George, 1702 ; Preb. Llanfair, 1705 ; S. R. Llanfor, 1713.

<sup>3</sup> V. Hope, 1731. He made great additions to the rectory house.

<sup>4</sup> R. Newtown, 1772 ; Canon, 1798.

<sup>5</sup> Nephew of Bishop. V. Guilsfield, 1819.

<sup>6</sup> Son of Bishop. S. R. Whitford and P. C. Morton, 1823 ; S. R. Llanarmon yn Ial and Preb. Meifod, 1826.

<sup>7</sup> Head Master of Oswestry School, 1833-60 ; P. C. Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog, 1837-60.

<sup>8</sup> In order to distinguish it from Overton in Malpas, this is also called Overton Madoc, *Wallies* "Owrtyn Fadog", after Madoc ap Meredydd, Prince of Powys, whose castle anciently stood here.

<sup>9</sup> There were formerly others, as Maesygwaelod, Maes Lewis, and Cloy.

<sup>10</sup> Of these, the rectorial were £511 : 8 : 2 ; vicarial, £50. There were some moduses on Rhewl, Gwallia, Llanycefn, Knolton Hall, and Bryn.

dows and chancel arch, and externally a new gable and buttresses.<sup>1</sup> The chancel floor of Portland stone, with borders and steps of Anglesey marble, and that of the sacrarium, which is of Sicilian marble with Anglesey borders, were presented by Mrs. Peel of Brynypys. The chancel arch, in lieu of the previous wooden one, and the centre chancel window were presented by Mr. Peel. The glass, which is by Clayton and Bell, has for its chief subject the Ascension, beneath which, in the several lights, are inserted the Last Supper and the Appearances of Our Lord to Mary, to the Two Disciples, to St. Thomas and to St. Peter. The window, on the north side,<sup>2</sup> by the same artists, has the Resurrection, with the two Marias on one side and St. Peter and St. John on the other. The window on the south, representing the Descent of the Holy Ghost, is a memorial to the late Dr. Eyton, put up by his fellow parishioners and friends. The re-opening took place on August 9th, 1870, and immediately afterwards the restoration of the nave and aisles was undertaken. This included the removal of the low pitched roof and the high pews; the lowering of the floor and the raising of a clerestory over the nave; the erection of a new hammer beam roof with vaulted bays between the principals, and detached corbel shafts; the substitution of new open seats and the transfer of the organ from the west end to the north aisle, and the opening out of the pointed arch of the tower.<sup>3</sup> A portion of an early coffin lid may be seen worked into the base of the south-western pillar.<sup>4</sup> The south aisle was rebuilt about 1850, at the cost of Miss Dorothea Bennion of Wrexham Fechan, to whose memory the east window has been filled with stained glass, illustrative of scripture subjects in nine medallions, obit 1852; the window on the south side being also memorial to her sister Caroline, ob. 1847, and illustrating in six subjects the Raising of Lazarus. The beautiful font at the west end of this aisle "was presented by the tenants and friends of Edmund Peel, Esq., of Brynypys, to commemorate the christening of his son, Hugh Edmund Ethelston Peel, Feb. 1, A.D. 1872."<sup>5</sup> It is in form an octagon, standing on a circular base, with marble shafts to support the angles, the material being Caen stone, set off with Derbyshire pebbles, and the carved panels representing types and antitypes of Baptism, the Ark, the Red Sea, the Baptism of our Lord, and His

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<sup>1</sup> The cost was upwards of £1,000. Mr. Peel contributed £310; Mrs. Peel £200; Rev. H. Mackenzie, £350.

<sup>2</sup> Presented by Mr. and Misses Lloyd Fletcher of Nerquis Hall, in memory of their parents.

<sup>3</sup> The cost of this was £2,000, towards which the chief contributions were, £760 10s. by Mr. Peel, £190 by the Rector, £500 by the Marquis of Westminster, £70 each by Mr. C. Cotton and Mrs. Lloyd, Brow; £76 : 16 : 9, re-opening offertories.

<sup>4</sup> A fragment of the old rood-screen existed in the north aisle before the Restoration.

<sup>5</sup> Inscription on brass tablet.



Blessing little Children. Among the monuments and mural tablets are some in the chancel to Edw. Phillips of Gwernhayled, 1681 ; and William his son and heir, 1683 ; Maria filia Gul. Phillips nupta Thomæ Lloyd de Halghton, ob. 1728, and "Thomas, filius unicus, 1730"; to Thomas, Roger and John Hanmer of Maesgwaylod, "the last surviving branches of a family long resident" there ; Mary, wife of Captain Walker, 23rd Regt., 1857 ; Kenrick Price, 1790 ; Owen Wynne of Llwyn 1760, and his descendant Dr. Maurice Wynne, rector, "the last male descendant of the house of Gwydir, ob. 1835, æt. 75." Phillips Lloyd Fletcher, 1808 ; and Fr. Parry Price (of Brynypys) 1787. In the north aisle are monuments to Frances Price, 1696 ; Francis Richard Price, 1858 ; and Susan, wife of F. R. P., 1813 ; in the south aisle to Thomas Bennion, 1803 ; and Mary, his wife, 1840 ; Rev. Edward Mason of Llanycefn, and Lieut.-Col. Eben. Jones of Knolton Hall, 1857.

Externally the tower is a fine feature, having buttresses and battlements with a polygonal turret rising above its north-east angle ; its character is Decorated. The north window of the north aisle is a good specimen of the Perpendicular ; a well carved corbel table runs round the church beneath the eaves.

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#### THE CEMETERY CHAPEL.

THIS beautiful little mortuary chapel, erected as a memorial to "Anna Maria Peel," who died Nov. 28, 1860, was consecrated in 1862. It comprises internally a small chancel and nave, and is entered by a south porch, on the west side of which rises a small tower surmounted by a steeple. The general character is late Early English, and the material red sandstone with freestone dressings, the plans by Mr. W. M. Teulon. Over the hooding of the east window, a triple lancet, is a recess with a figure of Our Lord teaching, and in the painted windows He is represented at the east as the Good Shepherd, Bidding Welcome to the Blessed of His Father, and as Bearing His Cross ; on the south side as Visited by the Shepherds at His Birth and Baptised by John ; and on the north as Raising Lazarus and Jairus' daughter, and Himself rising from the tomb. A rose window at the west end represents the Choirs of Angels. Below it are stalls for the mourners, with seats along either side. The east wall has an arcaded reredos, carved in Cefn stone, with marble pillars and carved capitals supporting the arches, and the floor is paved throughout with encaustic tiles.

The school was built in 1848, and cost £375.

The charities consist of—

1. Poor's Land, 9 acres in Maes Lewis, given by John Lloyd.
2. Ditto, 9 a. 3 r. 10 p. in Penley, bought in 1732, with £95.<sup>1</sup> 25 p. enclosure, and 1 r. 3 p. allotment.

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<sup>1</sup> Consolidated Charities.

3. Rentcharge of £5 4s. in Cloy by Thomas and Margaret Eyton (£2 12s. each).<sup>1</sup>

Lost—through other applications two sums of £80 and £48, the produce of timber off the Poor's Lands.

PERPETUAL CURATES.

1639.—JONES, Evan

1742.—ROE, Samuel

1672.—JONES, Michael

1762.—ELLIS, Zaccheus

1716.—LLOYD, Andrew

1843.—WRENCH, H. O., B.C.L.<sup>2</sup>

1722.—JENNINGS, John

1859.—DOUGLAS, Thomas, B.A.

*Rector.*—1868.—MACKENZIE, Henry, M.A., Magd. Hall, Oxford; Deac., 1854; Pr., 1855; Curate of Luton, 1854-6; St. James', Bristol, 1856-8; Gawsorth, 1858-9; P. C. St. Chad's Malpas, 1859-68.

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RHUABON.<sup>3</sup>

THIS large parish embraces an area of 10,344 acres, of the rateable value of £40,797, comprised in the several townships of Belan, Bodylltyn, Christionydd Kendrick, Coed-Christionydd, Dynhinlle ucha, Dynhinlle isa, Hafod; Moreton Anglicorum, Moreton Below (Offa's Dyke), and Rhyddallt;<sup>4</sup> the number of inhabited houses being 3,394, with a population of 15,150. Ecclesiastically, however, the daughter parishes of Rhosymedre and Rhos Llanerchrugog have relieved the mother church of the townships of Coed-Christionydd and Moreton Above, together with portions of Christionydd Kendrick and Dynhinlle ucha, and reduced the population still attached to it to 2,884; and for these there are additional services provided at Bryn, Penycæ, and Wynnstay.

In the famous controversy between Bishop Anian and the Abbot of Valle Crucis, relative to the cure of souls in the parishes appropriated to the abbey it was argued in behalf of the latter that Rhuabon, like the rest, was only a capella or outlying chapelry to Llangollen. The ground of this claim probably dates from the period when Tudor Trefor, the great Earl of Hereford, held his court at Pengwern in Llangollen, and thence ruled over the surrounding district, or from the still earlier time, when the Lord of Dinas Bran may have made his outlying territories subject to the great church of his Commote; and as no definite record is known wherein this church is appropriated by name to the abbey, it is not unlikely that it may have been included, or claimed at least as such as one of the portions of Llangollen.<sup>5</sup> The result of this controversy was that the bishop had to

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<sup>1</sup> There was formerly another "for whipping dogs out of the church."

<sup>2</sup> Chaplain to the Forces, Zante, 1859; S. R. Stone-next-Faversham.

<sup>3</sup> "The hill-side or slope of Mabon."

<sup>4</sup> Here Gryffydd ap Madog ap Gryffydd of Glyndyfrwy was married to Elizabeth, daughter of John L'Estrange, in 1304. (*Llyfr Cŏch*, 88A.)

<sup>5</sup> Page 505.

restore to the abbey the churches he had put under sequestration, but that he carried his point as to a resident vicar. Thus in the *Taxatio*, 1291, we find under "Ecclia de Rywvabon rectoria valet £12, dec. £1 4s.; vicaria, £4:6:8, dec. 8s. 8d.," and in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, 1535, whilst we have the vicarage returned at £13:6:8 gross value; £12:17:10 nett, and £1:5:9½ tenths, we find the rectory given among the spiritualia of the abbey, and valued at £29:16:8 gross, with deductions amounting to £1:8:8. On the dissolution of the abbey the rectorial tithes were granted by Edward VI to Sir William Pickering<sup>1</sup> and the grant renewed by James I to his son-in-law, Sir Edward, afterwards Baron, Wootton. They appear to have been subsequently sold, and those of Christionydd Kendrick and Bodylltyn to have been purchased by the owner of the Plas Madoc estate, and the remainder by the owner of Wynnustay. The Commutation returns give those of Christionydd Kendrick at £286:18:9 to improPRIATORS, now Mr. G. H. Whalley, M.P., of Plas Madoc,<sup>2</sup> and £62 10s. to the vicar, and those of the other townships at £799:1:5 to improPRIATORS,<sup>3</sup> now in the hands of several holders; and £447:13:4 to the vicar. To these tithe rentcharges, amounting to £510:3:4, must be added £96, transferred in 1860 by Mr. Hardcastle of Penylan in exchange for Brynllwynedd Farm;<sup>4</sup> another of £12 transferred by Sir W. W. Wynn, in lieu of an equal sum charged by Vicar Robinson in 1708 on the Cinders Farm,<sup>5</sup> with which he endowed the grammar school and almshouses; £7 per annum, the rental of the vicar's croft, near Wrexham, 1 a. 3 r. 29 p.; and 26 a. 3 r. 22 p. of glebe, adjoining the vicarage house, which was erected in 1749, and enlarged and improved in 1846.<sup>6</sup> Gross income £675. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary,—festival, August 15; but it appears to have had an earlier one to St. Collen, on May 21st,<sup>7</sup> whence also an additional reason would attach to the claim of the Abbot of Valle Crucis already noticed. The ground-plan comprises a chancel with north and south bays, or mortuary chapels of the Wynnustay

<sup>1</sup> "Denbighe Receytes...Rector de Ryvabon in tenur' d'e'i Will'mi (Pyche-ringe) p' annu' xxixli. xvjs. viijd."—Harl. MS. 128, p. 37.

<sup>2</sup> To whom, as mortgagee, the estate passed in 1857.

<sup>3</sup> Sir W. W. Wynn, £552:11:8; Trustees of Miss Kenyon, £318:18:6; Mr. Youde, £172 10s.; Mr. Nathaniel Jones, £41:2:1. These last have been bought and given by W. Beamont, Esq., to endow St. Ann's, Warrington.

<sup>4</sup> This farm had been given by Sir W. W. Wynn in 1788, in exchange for some glebe land and some houses in Rhuabon.

<sup>5</sup> Sold to Sir W. W. Wynn in 1859, in exchange for a tithe rent-charge.

<sup>6</sup> A sum of £1,119 was borrowed from Queen Anne's Bounty for this purpose.

<sup>7</sup> "Kappel Kolhen a galwant gae lle mae Kroes ymhlwy Rhiwabon: Ei gwyl mabsant a gadwant dhydh gwyl Golhen dair wythnos o hâv."—E. Lhuyd. Peniarth MSS.



family ; and a nave with its north and south aisles, a western tower, a north door, and a south porch. The earliest feature is a rude wall-painting of the fourteenth century, discovered during the restoration in 1870, and having for its subject the Works of Mercy, in which each agent is supported by an attendant angel. The painted glass noticed by Churchyard has long since disappeared.

“The trimmest glasse that may in window bee,  
(Wherein the root of Jesse well is wrought),  
At aulter head of church now shall you see ;  
Yea, all the glasse of church is dearly bought.”<sup>1</sup>

In his quaint description,

“There stands on little mount  
A right fayre church with pillars large and wide”,

he alludes to “a monument therein of good account”, the altar-tomb of alabaster with recumbent effigies of John ap Elis Eyton of Watstay, who fought at Bosworth in 1485, and died in 1526 ; and Elizabeth Calfley his wife, who died in 1524.<sup>2</sup> It has once been richly coloured, and figures of angels and monks alternately fill in the canopied panels of its sides. It is said that during the Cromwellian period a vault beneath the Communion-Table was used for the security of public records, as was the case with the crypt at Wrexham. In 1772 considerable alterations were made. An organ (“John Snatchley fecit, 1768”), which cost £300, was presented by Sir W. W. Wynn,<sup>3</sup> who also gave a small tripod font<sup>4</sup> in memory of his eldest son’s christening ; the central aisle was raised, and the Wynnstay gallery or pew set up. In 1819 a fire broke out, and injured the organ, which was repaired by Sir W. W. Wynn at an expense of £100. In 1858

<sup>1</sup> *Worthines of Wales.*

<sup>2</sup> “Orate pro a’i’a Joh’is ap Elis Eyton Armigeri qui obiit vicesimo.....die mensis Septembris An’o D’ni ..... El’sabeth Calfley uxoris ej’ que obiit xj die mensis Junii Anno D’ni M’o D’o xxiv. Quor’ a’i’bus propitiatur Deus. Amen.”

“A tombe it is right riche and stately made,  
Where two do lye in stone and auncient trade.  
The man and wife, with sumptuous, solemne guise,  
In this rich sort before the aulter lies.  
His head on crest and warlike helmet stayes,  
A lion blue on top thereof comes out ;  
On lion’s neck along his legges he layes ;  
Two gauntlets white are lying thereabout.  
An ancient squire he was, and of good race,  
As by his armes apperes in many a place.”

<sup>3</sup> In 1780 he assigned an annuity of £40 for the organist’s salary, the appointment to rest with himself and heirs.

<sup>4</sup> The old font was octagonal, like that at Wrexham.

it was improved, by subscription, at a further cost of £153; and in 1872 was again improved and enlarged by Sir W. W. Wynn. The fire also destroyed the pulpit, which was replaced by the present one of mahogany, a gift of the same donor. In 1845 a reredos was put up; and in 1846 open seats were substituted for pews<sup>1</sup> in the nave, the north chancel arch re-opened, new altar-rails inserted, and the organ moved back. In 1871-72 a more complete restoration was carried out, after the plans of Mr. B. Ferrey, F.S.A.; a new roof put up, the heavy pillars of the nave aisles replaced by more graceful ones, and the old gallery at the west removed so as to admit of opening out the west window through the tower. The nave is lighted by a range of clerestory lights; and among the other windows are three filled with stained glass. One in the south chapel "erected by Marie Emily Williams-Wynn in memory of her two dear brothers, Grenville, died at Bodylltyn, Jan. 7, 1865, and Arthur, Captain in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, who fell at the battle of the Alma, Sept. 20, 1854;" subjects, Our Lord in His Agony, Bearing His Cross, and as the Resurrection and the Life. One of three lights on the north side to "Ann Rowland of the Bryn, ob. 1859"; subjects, the Raising of Lazarus, the Two Sisters, and the Appearance to Mary in the Garden. The third at the west end of the north aisle to Mr. William Jones of Plas Newydd; central subject the Ascension, and on either side illustrations of the parables of the Vineyard, the Good Samaritan, the Talents and the Tares; glass by Gibbs.<sup>2</sup> Among the principal monuments, besides the altar tomb already noticed, must be enumerated—in the north chapel, one with the effigies of Henricus Wynne, ob. 1671, ætat 69; Joannes Wynne, 1718, ætat 91; et Jana Wynne, 1675, ætat 43. The father is represented standing, and with outstretched arms blessing his son and daughter-in-law.<sup>3</sup> Another near it represents Lady Henrietta Williams Wynn, who died 1769, ætat 21, as resting one hand on an urn (mortality) and the other on an anchor (hope). And in the south chapel a recumbent effigy (by Rysbrack, 1754), with a Latin epitaph by Dr. King, Principal of St. Mary's Hall, Oxford, to Sir Watkin Williams Wynn (son of Sir Wm. Williams of Llanforda and grandson of Sir William, twice speaker of the House of Commons, the founder of the family, who took the name of Wynn on succeeding Sir John, and was killed by a fall whilst

<sup>1</sup> There was one exception, that belonging to Penylaw.

<sup>2</sup> By subscription. Mr. Jones had been agent on the Wynnstay estate.

<sup>3</sup> Henry Wynn was the tenth son of Sir John Wynn of Gwydir, and married Catherine, the daughter of Eliseus Lloyd of Aberllefeni in Merionethshire. Their son John married Jane the daughter and heiress of Eyton Evans of Watstay, which name was by him changed to Wynnstay. Henry Wynn was Prothonotary of North Wales, Judge of the Marshalsea, Steward of the Verge, Solicitor-General to Queen Henrietta, Secretary to the Court of the Marches, and M.P. for Merionethshire.

hunting in 1749.<sup>1</sup> Near this is a mural tablet to "Sir Henry Watkin Williams-Wynn, K.C.B., G.C.H., formerly her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Copenhagen," ob. 1856, and Hester Frances, his wife, 1854. A rich inlaid brass was erected in 1871 on the south wall to the memory of Jenkyn Lloyd of Plas Madoc and of Clochfaen in Llangurig, ob. 1766; of Elizabeth his wife, heiress of Edward Lloyd of Plas Madoc, ob. 1758; and of Sarah their only daughter and heiress, relict of Rev. Thomas Youde, B.A., ob. 1837. Some early sepulchral effigies of members of the same family, formerly within the church, have been removed into the churchyard. The bells are five in number and bear respectively the inscriptions "Peace and good neighbourhood," "Fear God and honour the King," "Prosperity to this parish," "I to the Church the living call, and to the grave I summon all," "We were recast at the expense of Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart. Thomas Rudhall, Gloucester, founder, 1768." The communion plate consists of a paten given in 1616, and another paten, flagon, and chalice presented in 1679, all of which were re-made in 1776. Another chalice, dated 1753, has been given to Rhos Church.

The charities and endowments belonging to this parish are very numerous and valuable, and from a summary thereof issued in 1857 the following epitome is constructed:

1. *The Grammar School*.—The first notice of this school occurs in 1633 when one Thomas Edneved *alias* Nevett, charged some lands in Romney Marsh, belonging to the Girdlers' Company, with 40s. per annum for the schoolmaster; but the virtual founder was the Rev. John Robinson, vicar, who in 1703 bequeathed to it the Cinders farm of about 76 acres (subject to a charge of £12 for the vicar). In 1712 again Mr. Ellis Lloyd of Penylan bequeathed £200 (one moiety to the school, the other to the apprentice fund), which was added to another similar legacy by Vicar Robinson, and in 1753 invested in Tynypistill Farm in Nanthir, 158 a. 3 r. 19 p., inclusive of sheepwalk, rented at £40; and in 1757 Mr. Edward Lloyd of Penylan charged his lands in Weston Rhyn with £2 18s. Until 1852, however, it appears to have been little better than an ordinary national school, but at this time steps were taken to improve it,<sup>2</sup> and as there were already good national schools in the parish it was raised to a higher footing. New trustees were appointed the following year, and in 1858 a new house erected by Sir W. W. Wynn, with whom an exchange was carried out soon after, whereby in consideration of the old school-house and garden and the Cinders Farm, then let at £88 per annum, Sir Watkin

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<sup>1</sup> His first wife was Anne, daughter and coheiress of Edward Vaughan of Llangedwyn and Llwydiarth, through whom he succeeded to those properties. His second wife was Frances, daughter of George Shakerley of Gwersyllt.

<sup>2</sup> By the new scheme, three-fourths of this are assigned to the school, and one-fourth to apprentice fund.



transferred to the school the new house and 3 a. 0 r. 24 p. of land, £200 for the erection of a detached school-room, and a tithe rent-charge of £127 10s. arising from the townships of Moreton below, Belan, Moreton Anglicorum, and Tre Robert Lloyd. Vicar Robinson's trustees were the Bishop of St. Asaph and the Chief Justice of Chester with his Associate Judge; and for the two latter the rural dean of Wrexham, the vicar of Rhuabon, Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., and Hon. Lloyd Kenyon were substituted in 1853; but by a new scheme of the Endowed School Commissioners this trust has been completely superseded, and the School Board has signalised itself by nominating as five out of its six representatives members of different Nonconformist bodies, resident at Llangollen, Wrexham, and elsewhere. The new curriculum embraces Latin, mathematics, and the subjects of a good commercial education, there is a new scale of fees, and provision is made for remission in certain cases, and for exhibitions as funds admit. The present master is the Rev. Alfred Lee Taylor, M.A., of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge; appointed in 1856.

2. The National School for boys and girls was erected in 1848 at a cost of £1,600, and in 1854 an infant school was added at a further cost of £245. Previous to 1848 the girls were taught in Lady Wynn's school, and the boys in Madeley's school, built in 1826 upon land of Sir W. W. Wynn, who repaid the whole amount spent upon it towards the cost of the new national school. There is an endowment arising from Griffith Hughes's bequest of lands, then, in 1706, producing £4 per acre, exchanged in 1832 for other land at Trevechan and now yielding £18 per annum; and the moiety of the rent of the Well meadow in Whittington £2 10s.<sup>1</sup>

The Penycæ National School was erected in 1865 and opened in 1866, the cost being £703, inclusive of the site given by Lord Kenyon, and the stones by Mr. Jones of Llanerchrugog Hall. It serves also as a mission chapel for the district, a school and evening service being held in it every Sunday.

3. The almshouses are eighteen in number, fourteen being endowed, and four unendowed; of the former, ten were built by vicar Robinson's executor, 1711, and two at each end of them in 1739 by vicar Davies; of the latter, two were built in 1786 by the agent of the charity, probably out of accumulations of rent, and two by Mr. Jones of Belan Place; the site was given by Sir R. Myddelton.

The endowment comprises (1) land at Velin Puleston, bequeathed in 1708 by vicar Robinson, originally 41 a. 1 r. 6 p., of which 11 a. 1 r. 12 p. were sold in 1846 and 1850 to the S. and C. Railway Company for £1,495 5s., and now comprising 29 a. 3 r. 34 p., let for £65 per annum, and dividends on stock £1,576 : 16 : 1 in 3 per Cents. Consols, £47 5s. (2) Bryn defaid farm in Llangynhafal, 29 a. 2 r. 29 p.,

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<sup>1</sup> There was also a sum of twelve shillings charged on Weston Rhyn land by Mr. Edward Lloyd, of Plas Madoc, in 1757; but this has not been paid since 1841.

bequeathed by vicar Davies, 1740, present rental £42. (3) Turnpike trust, £5 per annum. (4) Legacy of Saunders, £200, minus legacy duty, now £196 : 19 : 8; Three per Cents. Stock, £6, total £165 5s. The almspeople receive a weekly pension, an allowance of coal, and some clothing, and a donation at Christmas; and there are also six blue coat boys provided with clothing from the funds.

4. Nantygwalia almshouses, four in number, were built in 1782 by Mrs. Anne Rowland of Plas Bennion, and endowed in 1854 by her granddaughter, Miss Anne Rowland of Bryn, with £400, now £426 2s. Three per Cents. Trustees, vicar and churchwardens.

5. Pont Adam houses for the poor; twelve single rooms built in 1822 with proceeds of Charity land timber and poor's rate, and sold in 1859 to Sir W. W. Wynn for £150.

6. Apprenticing fund, founded by vicar Davies and Mr. Ellis Lloyd of Penylan, whose bequests of £200 each were invested in Tynypistyll farm in Nanthir 158 a. 3 r. 19 p., rental £40, now divided one quarter to this fund, and three quarters to the grammar school. There is also a sum of £2 arising out of land in Holt, originally left by Jane Eyton *alias* Puleston in 1632.

7. The Bread Charity was founded by William Eyton in 1637, who left the Crimbals farm, 13 a. 0 r. 33 p., annual rent £15, to which, in 1716, Mrs. Elizabeth Whattall added a bequest of £60, which sum was added in 1746 to another of £30 Poor's money and Street-yr-Hwch, 7 a. 3 r. 5 p., in Marchwial purchased, rented £13, of which two-thirds goes to this fund.

#### 8. St. Thomas's Day Charities :

	£	s.	d.
Bronydd and other fields, 9 a. 1 r. 16 p., near Vicarage <sup>1</sup>	18	0	0
Rent-charge on Knolton, purchased with £200, bequest of Mrs. Jane Hughes . . . . .	9	0	0
Sir John Wynn's bequest, £300, for coat and flannels, 1718 . . . . .	15	0	0
Glanrafon Farm, 8 a. 3 r. 24 p., bought with £257, Consolidated Charities, <sup>2</sup> in 1752 . . . . .	18	0	0
Tainant Farm, 16 a. 37 p., bought with £140 of ditto, 1739 . . . . .	16	0	0
Dividends on sale of Glanrafon land, £130, Three per Cent., to Railway Company . . . . .	3	15	0
Nevett's Charity portion, see Grammar School . . . . .	2	6	8
Street yr Hwch, one-third being poor's money, see bread . . . . .	4	6	8
Turnpike bond for £100, by Edward Lloyd of Penylan . . . . .	5	0	0
Ditto for £60, by Lady Frances W. Wynn . . . . .	3	0	0
Ditto for £100, by Elizabeth Higgins of Llanerchrugog Hall . . . . .	4	10	0
Penynant legacies by John Griffith, 1715, Rev. J. Griffith, etc. . . . .	5	10	0
	£104	8	4

<sup>1</sup> Donors : Griff. Matthews, London, 1619, £60; David ap Richard, 1629, £10; and John Eyton, gent., the Bronydd. The two former invested in land.

<sup>2</sup> These embrace a large number of small legacies paid up to Vicar Davies,

## VICARS.

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| 1537.—BURRAS, John                       | 1706.—DAVIES, Richard, A.M. <sup>9</sup>   |
| 1539.—AP EDWARD, David <sup>1</sup>      | 1746.—JONES, Richard, A.M. <sup>10</sup>   |
| 1570.—POWELL, David, D.D. <sup>2</sup>   | 1756.—DAVIES, Edward, A.M. <sup>11</sup>   |
| 1578.—SALESBURY, R., LL.D. <sup>3</sup>  | 1758.—JONES, Lewis, A.M. <sup>12</sup>     |
| 1598.—POWELL, Samuel <sup>4</sup>        | 1770.—TREVOR, Thomas, A.M. <sup>13</sup>   |
| 1600.—WILLIAMS, Peter, A.M. <sup>5</sup> | 1784.—PULESTON, Philip, D.D. <sup>14</sup> |
| 1617.—LLOYD, Richard, D.D. <sup>6</sup>  | 1801.—WINGFIELD, R., M.A. <sup>15</sup>    |
| 1646.—LLOYD, Humphrey, D.D. <sup>7</sup> | 1842.—BONNOR, R. B. M., M.A. <sup>16</sup> |
| 1675.—ROBINSON, John, M.A. <sup>8</sup>  | 1859.—THOMAS, Thomas, M.A. <sup>17</sup>   |

1862.—EDWARDS, Ebenezer Wood, M.A., Jes. Coll., Oxford, Scholar, B.A., 3rd Cl. Litt. Hum., 1852; Deac., 1853; Pr., 1854; C. Llan-gollen, 1853-7; V. Nantylyn, 1857.

RHOS LLANERCHRUGOG.<sup>18</sup>

IN 1844 a national school was built here and licensed for divine service, to which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, acting under the powers of Peel's Act, 6th and 7th Victoria, cap. 37, attached by an

and invested by him and his successor, Vicar Jones. Several others, however, had been lost.

<sup>1</sup> R. Marchwiall. Deprived. R. Llandegla, 1556.

<sup>2</sup> The learned Welsh historian. R. Llanfyllin, 1571-8; Preb. Llanfair, 1575; V. Meifod, 1579; S. R. Llansantffraid, 1588. P. 254.

<sup>3</sup> Younger son of Sir John Salesbury of Lleweni; V. Corwen, 1573-8.

<sup>4</sup> Son of Dr. Powell.

<sup>5</sup> Canon, 1581; R. Llanerfyl, 1587; Preb. Meifod and R. Marchwiall, 1598; S. R. Llansannan, 1599.

<sup>6</sup> R. Llanuwchllyn, 1603; V. Abergele, 1611-13; V. Gresford, 1613-14; R. Marchwiall and Canon, 1614; comportioner of Llansannan, 1617.

<sup>7</sup> Son of the last. Deprived by parliamentary sequestrators. Dean of St. Asaph, 1663; Bishop of Bangor, 1675.

<sup>8</sup> R. Llanferras, 1660-73; R. Erbistock, 1680.

<sup>9</sup> Of Llanerch. R. Erbistock, 1706; Canon, 1710; S. R. Cilcain, 1721; Preb. of St. David's and of Brecon, 1732.

<sup>10</sup> R. Worthenbury, 1744.

<sup>11</sup> R. Llanwrin, 1745-56.

<sup>12</sup> V. Darowen, 1737; R. Llanymawddwy, 1739.

<sup>13</sup> Of Bodynfol. V. Oswestry, 1736-84.

<sup>14</sup> Of Pickhill Hall. Younger brother of John Puleston of Emral. R. Worthenbury, 1755.

<sup>15</sup> V. Llanllwchaiarn, 1799-1801; Canon, 1819.

<sup>16</sup> P. C. Trinity Church, Oswestry, 1837-42; Canon, 1850; Dean and Chancellor, 1859.

<sup>17</sup> V. Carnarvon, 1835-59; V. Llanrhaiadr-yn-Kinmeirch, 1862; Canon Residentiary in Bangor Cathedral, 1864.

<sup>18</sup> "The moorland adjoining the heathy glade."



Order in Council, Sept. 3, 1844, a district formed out of the parish of Rhuabon and comprising the township of Moreton above and part of Dynhinlle ucha, with a (present) mining population of 6,683. To this district they assigned an endowment of £130 per annum, to be increased to £150 as soon as a church should be built, which took place in 1853; in 1855 a further endowment was made through a bequest of £1,000 by Miss Cooke of Cheltenham, invested in the Three per Cents., and in 1868 the Commissioners again augmented their grant to £256 per annum, making the present income £286 per annum, but without house or glebe. The patronage is vested in the Crown and the bishop of the diocese alternately, the first appointment having been exercised by the Crown.

The Church of St. John the Evangelist, consecrated October 4th, 1853, is Norman in style and cruciform in plan, with a small spire at the junction of the chancel and south transept. An external corbel table, quaintly carved, runs round the church, and internally Norman mouldings adorn the chancel arch, and an arcaded reredos occupies the east wall, beneath a three-light window with detached shafts. An organ by Holmshaw and Sons of Birmingham was put up by subscription in 1873 at a cost of £180, and heating apparatus in 1868 at an outlay of £60. The font is circular and stands on a clustered shaft. The site was presented by F. R. West, Esq., M.P., and the whole outlay was £2,268 : 1 : 8.<sup>1</sup> Architect Mr. Thomas Penson.

The National School, built on a site presented by Hon. F. West, cost £876 : 17 : 10, of which sum £441 was from public grants,<sup>2</sup> and the rest subscriptions.<sup>3</sup>

#### VICARS.

1844.—RICHARDS, Philip Morgan, B.A., R. Llanwyddelan, 1860.

1860.—EVANS, William, M.A., King's College, London.<sup>4</sup>

1864.—JONES, John, St. Bees, Deacon, 1855; Pr., 1856; Curate of Tremeirchion, 1858-64.

#### RHOSYMEDRE.<sup>5</sup>

A DISTRICT comprising the township of Coed Christionydd and a portion of Christionydd Kendrick, embracing about 2,000 acres, was assigned to this church by an Order in Council, dated 24th May, 1844.

<sup>1</sup> Diocesan Church Building Society, £400; Incorporated Church Building Society, £220; Co-operative Church Building Society, £15; Her Majesty's Commissioners, £200; R. M. Bonner, vicar of Rhuabon, £400; Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., £200; F. R. West, Esq., M.P., £100 and site; P. M. Richards, P. C., £100; Bishop Short and John Lees, Esq., £50; T. Penson and New British Iron Company, £40; offertories in laying foundation-stone, £17 : 12 : 6; consecration, £50 10s.; etc.

<sup>2</sup> National Society gave £213.

<sup>3</sup> R. M. Bonnor, vicar, £83 12s.; Sir W. W. Wynn, £60; Lord Kenyon, £50.

<sup>4</sup> White marble cross in churchyard. Ob. June 4, 1864.

<sup>5</sup> This district is more frequently called "Cefn"; and it was under this name the church was originally built.

The boundary line runs from New Bridge in a northerly direction along the western boundary of Wynnstay Park to Bodylltyn Lodge, and from thence along the brook by Plas Madoc to Plas Isaf, from thence in a straight line westward to Croes Street, and thence in a south-west direction to Cefn Fedw, where it meets the boundary line of Rhuabon and Llangollen parishes. The population amounts to 5,582, and is almost entirely mining and manufacturing.

The church was built in 1836 by the late Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., who also endowed it with a rentcharge of £50 per annum. It was consecrated on July 6th, 1837; this is commemorated by a memorial window of five lights, illustrative of the Ascension, put up by subscription at the east end in 1867.<sup>1</sup> The form of the church is that of a cross, and its accommodation 975.<sup>2</sup> A rentcharge of £144 16s., arising from the patron's moiety of the rectorial tithes of Llanfair-Caereinion, has been substituted for the previous £50; and this, with pew rents and a house purchased in 1848, constitutes the income; it is in the patronage of Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart.

The national school was erected by subscription in 1839.

*Vicar.*—1843.—EDWARDS, John David, B.A., Jes. Coll., Oxon; Deac., 1832; Pr., 1833; Curate of Llansantffraid glyn dyfrdwy, and Llanwrin; Author of *Prize Tunes* in 1818, 1819, etc., and *Sacred Music*, vol. i, 1836; vol. ii, 1843.

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### WORTHENBURY.<sup>3</sup>

“THIS parish, consisting of only one township, was formerly a parochial chapel belonging to the parish of Bangor. But in 1689 Sir Roger Puleston of Emrall, Knight, being impropiator gave the tithe thereof and the parsonage house to the church for ever, and obtained then an Act of Parliament to sever this township and chapel from the parish of Bangor and to make it a parish of itself.”<sup>4</sup> A previous separation had been made in 1658 by Judge Puleston, who endowed it with £100 a year and a house, on condition that his chaplain, Philip Henry, should be incumbent; but rector Bridgeman in 1661 refusing to acknowledge an Act passed during the Commonwealth reasserted the rights of the mother parish, and so it continued a chapelry until it was separated, with the consent of the bishop and patron in 1683, and the Act confirming the same was passed in 1689. “Before the separation the tythe of Worthenbury, which is a township consisting of four hamlets (Wallington, Broughton, Mulston, and Wern), belonged to Sir Roger Puleston under a modus of £20 per annum,<sup>5</sup> and Sir Roger

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<sup>1</sup> Glass by Done and Davies of Shrewsbury.

<sup>2</sup> 557 are free.

<sup>3</sup> Welsh name, “Gwrthymyp”; *Domesday* name, “Hurdingerbie”.

<sup>4</sup> Copy of terrier, 1778, on the church wall.

<sup>5</sup> There were moduses on Emrall demesne and Mr. Whitehall's meadows,

gave all ye tithes of the township and hamlets and a brick house with ye croft where it stands to ye use of ye ministir and his successors for ever, upon consideration yt he and his heirs shall have ye advowson. And the rector of Worthenbury was to pay a third part of first fruits, tenths, and all other ecclesiastical charges which the rector of Bangor was obliged to pay before the separation."<sup>1</sup> The commuted value of the tithes is £400, and there is a house, built in 1833 at a cost of £1,700. It is in the patronage of Sir R. Puleston of Emrall, Bart., and the jurisdiction recently transferred from the see of Chester to St. Asaph.

The church, St. Deiniol, rebuilt in 1735,<sup>2</sup> is a small brick edifice with freestone dressings, and consists of a nave with a chancel apse and a western tower in three stories.

The east window contains fragments of stained glass, undique colata membra, but chiefly heraldic; the font is a small bowl standing on a pedestal; the chandelier in the nave was presented by William Lea of Halghton, 1816; and there is a gallery at the west end. The principal monuments are those to Dr. Puleston, rector 1801, æt. 70; Sir Richard Puleston, 1840, æt. 76; Broughton Whitehall, 1734, æt. 49; W. Whitehall Davies of Broughton and Llanerch, 1824, æt. 60; and George Allanson, Preb. Ripon and rector of Hodnet, 1826, rector Matthie 1843, and a curious laudatory effusion in memory of Watkin Hayman 1799.

The school was built by subscription.<sup>3</sup>

The charities comprise (1) the interest of £666 left by Lady Puleston for clothing, etc. (2) A small sum by Mr. Jones for ditto. (3) Two small sums for bread by Sir R. Puleston and Mr. Jones.<sup>4</sup>

#### RECTORS.

1683.—SHORE, John  
1714.—GENT, Joseph  
1714.—LLOYD, Owen

1718.—JONES, Robert  
1744.—JONES, Richard, A.M.<sup>5</sup>  
1755.—PULESTON, Philip, D.D.<sup>6</sup>

and 5s. an acre for hemp and flax. The Easter dues comprised 3d. for man and wife, 1d. for garden, 1d. for smoke, 1d. for hive of bees.

<sup>1</sup> Bishop Gastrell's *Notitia*.

<sup>2</sup> The outlay was £955.

<sup>3</sup> A sum of £150 was bequeathed by Thos. Puleston of Emrall in 1734, and also £6 per annum for six poor almsmen; but it never seems to have been carried out.

<sup>4</sup> The official Report of 1837 mentions the consolidated sum to be £46, by unknown benefactors. Bishop Gastrell, in his *Notitia* (1718), mentions "several small sums amounting to £25"; £50 charged on the estate of Broughton by Thomas and John Broughton; £5 each by three Jenkinsses; £10 by Rector Shore; £5 by Edward Hughes; £10 by Mr. Whitehall, charged on the Broughton estate.

<sup>5</sup> V. Rhuabon, 1706-46.

<sup>6</sup> V. Rhuabon, 1784. He was of Pickhill Hall. Younger brother of John Puleston, Esq., Emrall.



1801.—ETHELSTON, C. W.                      1831.—MATTHIE, Hugh, B.A.  
 1844.—WYNNE-EYTON, C. W., M.A.<sup>1</sup>

1848.—PULESTON, Theophilus Henry Gresley, B.A., Brasenose Col., Oxford; Deac., 1847; Pr., 1848; Curate of Chaceley, Gloc., 1847-8.

### THREAPWOOD.<sup>2</sup>

THIS is an ecclesiastical district, partly in Flintshire and partly in Cheshire, formed out of the ancient Domesday Forest of Broughton (portions of which had previously been annexed to the adjacent parishes of Malpas and Worthenbury), and comprising an area of 240 a. 1 r. 8 p. Being extra-parochial it had formerly an unenviable notoriety as a refuge of immorality and lawlessness; but of this character it has been for some time clearing itself. Its present population is 326.

The endowment consists of £63 : 2 : 2 per annum (the interest of £2,013 : 17 : 11 Parliamentary grant<sup>3</sup> through Queen Anne's Bounty) and £10 per annum (the interest of £336 : 6 : 8<sup>4</sup> Three per Cent. Consols), with a house and four acres of glebe, and is in the patronage of the Bishop of Chester.

The church, St. John's, was erected in 1816 and consecrated on Jan. 8, 1817, by Bishop Law of Chester, in whose diocese it then was; it is a plain brick edifice with no architectural pretensions; it will accommodate 144 on the ground floor, in addition to which there are two galleries.

The school, erected in 1843, will accommodate 200 children, and is convenient for portions of the adjoining parishes.

### VICARS.

1817.—BROOKE, R. P.                      1831.—BRADFORD, Thomas  
 1821.—BARNES, William                1832.—CHURTON, John F.  
 1823.—PARRY, Frederick                1839.—PHAYRE, Maxwell  
 1830.—COLE, George

1854.—Cox, Thomas, Deac., 1852; Pr., 1853; C. Waverton, 1852-4.

<sup>1</sup> Fellow of Jesus College, Oxon.; R. Aston Clinton, dioc. Oxon., 1848.

<sup>2</sup> Pennant supposes that the name is derived from the Anglo-Saxon *threapian*, "to persist in a thing," and considers it very appropriate to the character of its former inhabitants.

<sup>3</sup> A grant of £1,800 was made from this fund in 1817.

<sup>4</sup> This, together with the glebe and the cost of erecting the church, was given by Lord Kenyon and the Rev. Whitehall Davies of Broughton.

WREXHAM.<sup>1</sup>

THIS important parish embraces the several townships of Abenbury fawr, Abenbury fechan, Acton, Bersham, Bieston and Gourton, Broughton, Brymbo, Burras-Hofa, Esclusham-Above (Offa's Dyke), Esclusham-Below, Minera, Stansty, Wrexham Regis, and Wrexham Abbot, embracing an area of 19,907 acres, of the rateable value of £85,108, and with a population, town, agricultural, and mining, of 23,183. For ecclesiastical purposes, however, it has been subdivided by the formation of the new parishes of Brymbo and Minera, by the transfer of Burras Hofa to Gresford<sup>2</sup> and a part of Stansty to Gwersyllt, and eased by the chapelry of Berse and the new church of St. Mark's; leaving to the mother church an area of 11,941 acres, and a population of 11,634. For parochial purposes again the town is subdivided into Wrexham Abbot, representing the portion formerly belonging to the Abbey of Valle Crucis, Wrexham Regis and Esclusham Below; and this division corresponds with the Parliamentary borough.

From *Llyfr C'ôch* we gather the following interesting particulars of its early history.<sup>3</sup> Reyner, Bishop of St. Asaph, 1186-1225, granted

<sup>1</sup> This name has been variously written Wrightesham, Wrightelsham, Wittishum, Wrythesham, Wyrcessum, and Wricksham; and this latter is the ordinary pronunciation of the working classes. The termination *ham* (a home, hamlet), and its frequent occurrence in the local nomenclature connects it with the Saxon advance; whilst the former portion of the name may represent some warrior, such as *Cynwrig*; or, still more likely, may be the following of the national habit, so as to indicate the physical aspect of the district at the time, as covered with heather,—a feature still attested by the adjoining *Llanerch-rugog*. An old Welsh name appears to have been "Caer Fantell", which may, perhaps, be represented in "Rhostyllen."

<sup>2</sup> The townships of Erddig and Erlas have been transferred, in return, from Gresford to this parish.

<sup>3</sup> 59A.—"Reynerus Ep'us Assavens' concedit Abbati et Conventui de Valle Crucis medietatem ecclesie de Wrexham ad fabricam ecclesie sue; eadem donacio alia forma dat' 3 cal' Maij 1220; confirmacio ejusdem charte per Decan' et Capit' Assav'; confirmacio ejusdem charte per Archiep'm Cant'; confirmacio ejusdem charte per A. Ep'um Assav'; confirmacio ejusdem charte per Honorium Papam 16 cal. Jan' pontif' sui a'o 7; tradicio ejusdem confirmacionis Pape Abbati et monachis de Valle Crucis per R. Ep'um Insularum et testimoniale ejusdem Ep'i super eadem liberatione.

60A.—"Confirmacio predictarum literarum per A. Ep'um Assav' a'o 1228. A. Ep'us concessit iisdem Abbati et Conventui medietatem aliam ecclesie de Wrexham a'o 1227. Confirmacio sequentis concessionis per Archiep'm Cant';

a moiety of the church of Wrexham to the abbot and Convent of Valle Crucis for the uses of the fabric of their abbey, A.D. 1220; and this grant was confirmed by the dean and chapter, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and by the Pope, Honorius III, respectively; and the said papal confirmation was transmitted to the abbot by R. Bishop of the Isles. The next bishop, Abraham, not only confirmed his predecessor's grant, but also added the other moiety in 1227, and this likewise was sanctioned by the archbishop. It was probably on the death of Bishop Howel in 1247 that Madoc ap Gruffydd, as guardian of the temporalities of the see, resigned to the abbot the advowson or right of patronage. Bishop Anian I, on his accession in 1249, confirmed the above grant of Abraham; and on his death in 1267 Maurice or Meurig, guardian of the temporalities, confirmed the previous grants of Reyner, Abraham, and Howel, as well as their ratification by Anian himself. The second Anian, however, who was a strenuous upholder of the rights of his see, became involved in a long and troublesome controversy with the abbot concerning the patronage of this and other appropriated benefices. The bishop appointed a vicar to Wrexham as well as Llangollen, and against this proceeding the abbot appealed to the Pope, not only on the plea of the previous grants, but also on the plea that Wrexham was one of the capellæ or chapelries of Llangollen; and the result was that sentence was given against the bishop, who was condemned to pay £5, whilst the instituted vicars were condemned in £60 for loss incurred through them by the abbot and convent.<sup>1</sup> This, however, seems to have been but a temporary victory for the abbot, for in the *Taxatio*, A.D. 1291, we read "Ecclesia de Gwregsam, rectoria £24 : 13 : 4, decima £2 : 9 : 4; vicaria £8 : 13 : 4, dec. 17s. 4d.," and three years later we have a record of great interest and value which not only gives the appointment of a vicar by the bishop, who claims it as his right, and adds that so it had been of ancient custom, but also supplies an instance of the ancient usage of "investiture with a ring," and specifies the items of his income,<sup>2</sup>

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concessio totius ecclesie de Wrexham eidem Abbati et Conventui per A. Ep'um Ass'.

60B.—"Eadem concessio iisdem fere verbis : dat' mense Nov' 1225. Concessionis ejusdem confirmacio per Decan' et Capitul' Assav'.

61A.—"Idem iisdem fere verbis dat' 1251. Confirmacio donacionum Reineri, Abrahami, et Howeli Ep'orum necnon confirmationis Aniani Ep'i facte de ecclesia de Llangolhen et Wrexham per M (Mauritium) Custodem Assaphens': dat' in Octavis Innocent' 1267. Renunciatio juris patronatus ad ecclesiam de Wrexham Abbati et Conventui de Valle Crucis per Madocum filium Gruffith. Confirmacio concessionis Abraham Ep'i facte Monasterio de Valle Crucis per Anianum Ep'um : dat' in crastino beati Thome Archiep'i a'o 1249; consecrationis 1'o."

<sup>1</sup> See pp. 43 and 506 supra.

<sup>2</sup> "Leolinus permissione divina Assavens. Ecclesie minister humilis suo in Christo filio Madoco filio Hwfæ subdiacono, salutem gratiam et benedic-



viz., a fourth part of the corn tithes and dues, and also of the offerings on occasions of confession, vigils, and death.

During the interval between this and the Reformation other ecclesiastical institutions sprung into existence here, as is indicated by the names Priory, Nunnery,<sup>1</sup> and Ysptyty.<sup>2</sup>

The *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, A.D. 1535, returns the vicarage as of the gross annual value of £20 : 18 : 4, the deduction for lactuals, annuals, and triennials £1 : 8 : 8, nett value £19 : 9 : 8, and tenths thereon £1 : 18 : 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ . The rectory is returned as appropriate to Valle Crucis, under which we find it as follows:—

“*Rectoria de Wrexham Val' in*

	£	s.	d.
Decimis garbarum & feni co'ib' annis . . .	43	0	0
Decimis agnorum lanæ et lactualium . . .	5	6	8
Decimis porcell' auc' & similibus minutis decimis . . .	1	3	4
Oblacionibus ibidem co'ib' annis . . .	5	6	8
	<hr/>		
	£54	16	8

tionem. Vicariam ecclesie Wrythesham Assavens' dioc de jure et de facto vacantem cujus collacio ad nos pertinet tibi confirmavimus et investientes te presentialiter annulo nostro de ipsa vicaria cum suis juribus et pertinentiis universis sicut melius et plenius Kynwrig Vychan capellanus et vicarius eandem tenuit vicariam te vicarium perpetuum instituimus in eadem recepturum tibi et quartam partem obvencionum et quartam partem decime bladi totius ecclesie de Wrythesham cum denariis mortuorum vigiliarum confessionum et cum omnibus aliis ad eandem vicariam pertinentibus; salvis nobis et successoribus nostris hiis omnibus que ad nos et predecessores jure episcopali et antiqua consuetudine pertinere noscuntur. In cujus rei testimonium presentes litteras sigilli nostri munimine fecimus roborari hiis testibus G. Archid Assaven; dno. R. ejusdem loci Decanus, Magistro Aniano, Mag'ro Benedicto, Mag'ro Johanni ap Adam, dno. Helya ap Ierwerth dno. David ap Llowarch canonicis Assavens et aliis; dat' apud sanctum Martinum...Idus Apriles Anno Dom. m.c.c. nonaginto quarto consecrationis nostre anno primo.”—*Llyfr Cêch*, 1 a.

<sup>1</sup> The Nunnery is now called “Brynyffynon,” and is used as the Guild Hall of the town. It is a quaint old house of many gables, divided internally by lath and plaster partitions and wainscotted, and covered externally with a coat of plaster. In the attic story are still shown the small wainscot compartments which are said to have formed the sleeping cells of the nuns. The approach to the nunnery lay through an ancient Tudor gateway and lodge, the gables of which were drained through quaint gargoyles, and its windows set off with effective carved work. Near it was the ancient well, from which it took its name, and over this stood in former times a small oratory or chapel. “Yr oedd gynt medd rhai, rhyw gappel bychan uwchben Ffynnon Deyno.”

<sup>2</sup> To this probably belonged Cae'r Cleifion, i. e., “Terra Leprosorum” (Lepers' Land), thus connecting it with the Crusades and the Knights Hospitallers.

The deductions "In repris" on account of the same were—

Lactualia Episcopo annuatim soluta	£	s.	d.
Procuraciones annuales dicto Episcopo sol'	2	6	8
Procuraciones Visitationis	1	10	10
	0	9	11½
	£4	7	5½

Et valet clare £50:9:2¾.<sup>1</sup>

On the dissolution of the abbey its property was granted by Edward VI to Sir William Pickering, Knight, and in the "Denbighe Receytes" in the Harleian MSS. we find the following entry: "Rector' de Wrexame in tenur' Will'mi Pycheringe p' annu L. li." This grant was subsequently renewed by James I to Pickering's son-in-law, Sir Edward (afterwards Baron) Wootton, from whom it came into the hands of the owner of Wynnustay. The rectorial tithes were recently sold by Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., and are now in many hands, appropriate and inappropriate, *e. g.*—

Townships.	Vicarial.	Appropriate.	Improprate.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Benbury fawr and fechan	0 14 0	27 4 8*	172 17 9 S. K. Mainwaring	200 16 5
cton	1 10 0	26 10 0*	116 4 9½ Sir R. A. Cunliffe	146 14 9½
Bersham	240 10 0	38 3 10†	2 10 0 Sir W. W. Wynn	413 13 10
Bleston & Gourton	0 5 0	17 10 0*	135 0 0 T. L. Fitzhugh	166 3 10
Broughton	191 0 0	2 1 5*	148 8 10 S. K. Mainwaring	
		74 16 0†	29 0 0 Sir W. W. Wynn	296 17 5
Brymbo	1 0 0†	31 19 8†	150 0 0 Mrs. Rowe, Wrexham	332 19 8
Burras Hova	0 11 3	6 5 0*	75 0 0 E. Roberts, Manchester	
Esclusham Above	53 15 0	16 0 0*	75 0 0 T. L. Fitzhugh	88 18 6½
			82 2 3½ Mr. Newcome	
„ Below	100 2 6	14 8 5*	237 0 0 Caroline E. Burton	338 15 0
Minera	34 10 0	116 0 0†	32 0 0 Emma Atwood	
Stansty	0 14 0	5 10 0*	167 0 0 E. Ffoulkes	449 9 6
Wrexham Abbot & Regis	6 0 0	1 3 0*	146 0 0 J. H. Ffoulkes	
		54 18 0*	21 18 7 Sir W. W. Wynn	
	630 11 9	432 10 0	105 0 0 J. H. Ffoulkes	156 0 0
			15 3 0 Sir W. W. Wynn	122 0 0
			218 10 0 S. K. Mainwaring	288 8 0
			9 0 0 Sir W. W. Wynn	
				3000 17 0

<sup>1</sup> In addition to this there were *inter temporalia* the following items:—  
 Redit assis. ibm p annu, £14:2:8; Firma molend. ibm p annu, £5; P'quis  
 cure coibs annu, £2:13:4; £21 16s. in repris £1:13:4, clare £20:2:8.

\* Purchased by W. Beamont, Esq., of Orford Hall, Warrington, and by him given towards the endowment of St. Ann's, Warrington. See also p. 835, n. 3.

† Belonging to the Vicar of Brymbo. See *infra*.

‡ The Trustees of St. Mark's, Wrexham.

The vicar has also a glebe of nine acres and the old Vicarage in which Bishop Heber wrote his celebrated missionary hymn, "From Greenland's icy Mountains." Patron, the Bishop.

The church, dedicated according to some authorities to St. Giles, but according to others to St. Silin,<sup>1</sup> was rebuilt, with the exception of the tower, in the reign of Edward IV, and again restored in the year 1867. Of the earlier edifice, its style and character, little is known, but that it stood on the site of the present one, and terminated where the chancel arch proves, by the remains of its ancient tracery, the old east window to have been. "In some old accounts I have seen of this town in the *Welsh Chronicles*," writes Browne Willis, "the steeple is said to have been cast down on Nov. 25th, 1330, and the market changed next year, anno 1331, from Sunday to Thursday, as it now continues, and that the town was burnt anno 1463."<sup>2</sup> Other authorities state the church to have been burnt down in 1457,<sup>3</sup> and in order to promote the rebuilding of it an indulgence of forty days for five years was granted by the Pope. The family of Llwyn Onn, whose chapel with its altar, shrines, and piscina stood at the south-east angle, are said to have been the first to respond to the call, and their teams to have carried the first loads of stone.<sup>4</sup> It was now most likely that the chancel was thrown out, and the work finished about 1480; but the beautiful tower, the gem of the whole building, and one of the seven enumerated wonders of Wales, was not completed until 1506. Further improvements are said to have been made in the time of Bishop Birkhead, 1513-18, who is stated by Edwards, the editor of Browne Willis, and a former curate of this parish to have been a great promoter of it.<sup>5</sup> A subsequent bishop, Parfew (or Wharton) resided much of his time here and endeavoured to procure "a licence for to remove his see or cathedral church" to this place, of which Leland wrote about this same time, that "Wrexham hath a goodlie chirch collegiate, as one of the fairest of all North Wales, but there longeth no prebends to it." In Queen Elizabeth's reign the church was enlarged by the addition of the south aisle,<sup>6</sup> the roof of which is said to have been formed out of the timber of a gallery that ran along the north side. During the Commonwealth it was desecrated into a prison,<sup>7</sup> according to Browne Willis, and into a stable,

<sup>1</sup> St. Giles's Day fell on Sept. 1, that of St. Silin on Oct. 1, and they may have represented respectively the mediæval and the British dedications.

<sup>2</sup> *Survey of St. Asaph*, 1720, p. 297. Edwards, in his edition, 1801, calls the chronicles those of Caradoc of Llancarvan, but Caradoc died in 1156.

<sup>3</sup> Lewis' *Topographical Dictionary*, and Jones's *Wrexham and its Neighbourhood*.

<sup>4</sup> *Arch. Camb.*, 1867.

<sup>5</sup> B. Willis, i, 91.

<sup>6</sup> A part of the old south wall was thus enclosed in the west end of the new aisle.

<sup>7</sup> Letter to Lord Cromwell in Ellis's Collection.



according to others. A peal of ten bells, by Rudhall of Gloucester, was set up in 1726,<sup>1</sup> their total cost being £450 : 17 : 8. In 1779 an organ by Green of London was purchased for £360, and was reckoned the finest at that time in the diocese, with the exception of that in the cathedral. In 1789-90 the pavement was levelled, the pews made more regular, and a new pulpit and desk inserted. In 1820-21 two large galleries were erected, running the whole length of the north and south aisles. In 1853 the organ at the west end was reconstructed so as to expose the fine west window through the tower. And finally, in 1867, the whole church was thoroughly and effectively restored from the plans of Mr. B. Ferrey, F.S.A. On this occasion the north and south galleries were removed, the old pews and floors replaced by open seats of oak, and encaustic tiles in the aisles and chancel, the latter being of rich design ; the walls cleaned, the stonework repaired, and a beautiful new pulpit presented by the mayor, Mr. Peter Walker, at a cost of 200 guineas ; a handsome reading desk of carved oak was added by a subsequent mayor, Mr. John Beale. The cost of the restoration was £4,345, which was defrayed by subscriptions,<sup>2</sup> and the church was reopened for divine worship on the 16th October, 1867.<sup>3</sup>

After this summary of the past history there will naturally follow some account of it as it is, and the first place must still be given to its fine handsome tower, which Churchyard so quaintly describes :

“ The steeple there in forme is full foure square  
Yet every way, five pinnackles appeere :  
Trim pictures fayre in stone on outside are  
Made all like waxe, as stone were nothing deere.  
The height so great, the breadth so bigge withall  
No peece thereof is likely long to fall :  
A worke that stands to stayne a number more  
In any age that hath been buylt before.”<sup>4</sup>

By these “ five pinnackles ” must evidently be understood not the hexagonal turrets which crown the angles (for of these there are only four), but the finials which top the buttresses, whilst the “ trim pic-

<sup>1</sup> The Saint's or “ Parson's Bell ” is dated 1678. Among the older peal was the one from St. Asaph Cathedral inscribed “ Dicas Bodlewiddan,” which had been taken in exchange for three others.

<sup>2</sup> Principal subscriptions : £500 by Sir W. W. Wynn, Lay Rector ; £200 Canon Cunliffe, Vicar ; £100 each, Bishop Short, T. L. Fitzhugh, Sir R. A. Cunliffe, Mrs. Mainwaring of Oteley, H. W. Meredith, and S. Yorke ; £75 T. T. Griffith, M.D. ; £50 each, by Tho. Rowland, Wm. Overton, Rev. J. C. Roberts, T. Mainwaring, M.P., Edmund Peel, Ellis W. Cunliffe, and Lord Kenyon ; reopening offertories, £109 19s. ; collections in church, etc., £153 : 5 : 1 ; proceeds of bazaar, £523 : 14 : 2 ; entertainment, £70 : 4 : 4 ; fancy work, £50 ; lottery, £45 : 6 : 11 ; concert, £38 : 4 : 6, etc.

<sup>3</sup> A brass tablet was erected in 1869 at the west end of the church to commemorate this event.

<sup>4</sup> *Worthines of Wales*, published in 1587.

tures fayre" point to the numerous statues of kings, bishops, and saints which ornament its canopied shrines. Above the door of the porch at the west end of the north aisle there is also still standing an image of the Virgin and Child, and inside the porch two memorials of the long past, a monumental effigy of a mailed knight, whose shield is distinguished by a lion rampant with the legend "*Hic jacet Keneverike ap Hovel*,"<sup>1</sup> and a portion of an early mural painting illustrative of the crucifixion, whilst another has been brought to light over the chancel arch of similar character, but depicting the last Judgment. The tower, which is 135 feet in height, is of six stories, divided by bands of ornamental panelling and surmounted by pinnacled battlements and hexagonal turrets. The walls of the nave and aisles are likewise battlemented and set off with pinnacles.

In the interior, the chancel, which is paved with rich encaustic tiles and furnished with oak benches with open panels foiled and cusped, has a fair reredos of carved stone<sup>2</sup> flanked with canopied shrines for statues, after the pattern of the original east end, and in the south-east wall triple sedilia with carved spandrels. The east window of five lights is filled with stained glass of a geometrical pattern, with fifteen small medallions, illustrative of the teachings and sufferings of Our Lord; and on either side of it are others with figures of St. Peter and St. Paul. The glass of these windows is by Evans of Shrewsbury, and they were set up in the year 1841.<sup>3</sup> The tombs noticed by Churchyard as existing in his time have either disappeared or been removed elsewhere;<sup>4</sup> but there are other more recent ones well deserving of notice. In the sill of the south window lies the life-size effigy of Hugh Bellot, Bishop of Chester, previously vicar of Gresford, and Bishop of Bangor, and one of the translators of the English Bible, who died at Plas Power (then Bersham Hall) in 1596.<sup>5</sup> Another

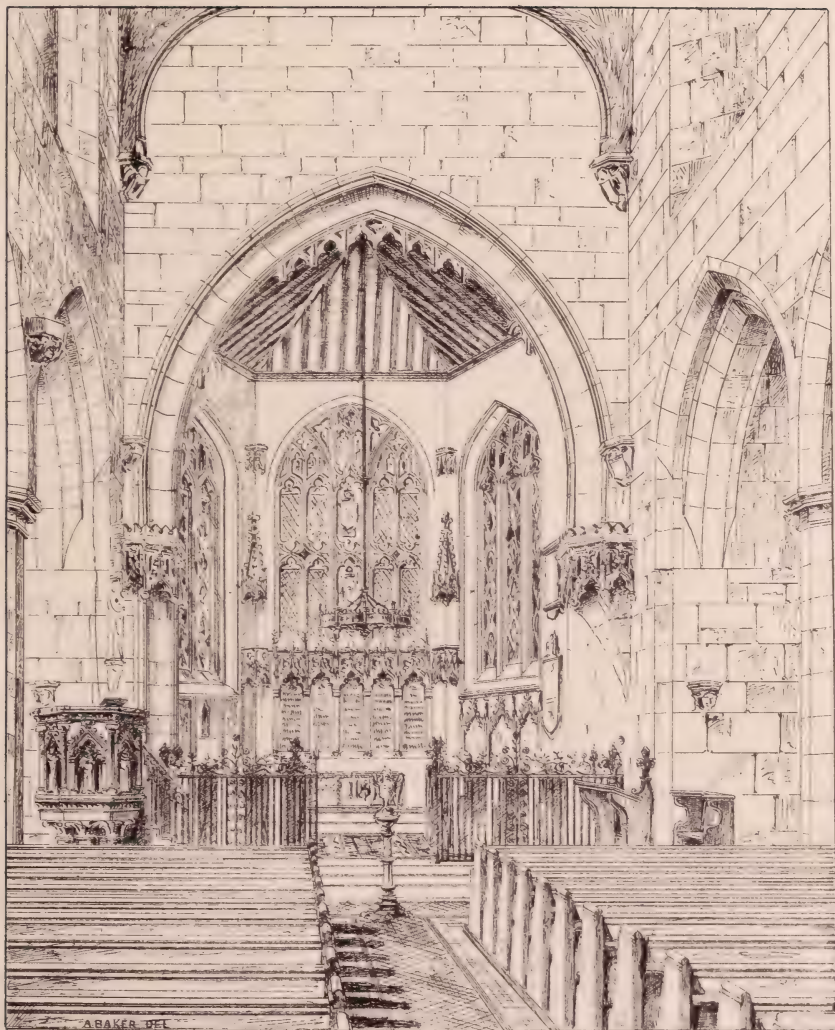
<sup>1</sup> Is this the one noticed by John Erddig of Erddig, Esq., in 1660, in the churchyard wall, with a lion rampant sculptured on his shield, and the inscription "*Hic jacet Cynvrig ap Rhiwallon*"; and of which Pennant notes that it "had been dug up and is now reared against the steeple"?

<sup>2</sup> The work of — Davies, a native artist.

<sup>3</sup> By subscription to commemorate the coming of age of Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart.

<sup>4</sup> "Now let this goe and call in haste to minde  
Trim Wricksam towne, a pearle of Denbighshire:  
In whose fayre church a tombe of stone I finde,  
Under a wall right hand on side of queere.  
On th' other side one Pilson lies in grave  
Whose hearse of blacke sayth he a tombe shall have;  
In queere lyes Hope, by armes of gentle race,  
Of function once, a rector in that place."

<sup>5</sup> "*In certa gloriosæ Resurrectionis hic in Christo obdormit Reverendus Pater D'Hugo Bellot Sacræ Theologiæ Doctor, ex antiqua familia Bellot de Morton in comitatu Cestriæ oriundus, quem ob singularem in Deum pieta-*



B. FERREY F.S.A. ARCHT. RESTAUR.

WREXHAM CHURCH





touching one on the north wall, by Woolner, is memorial to Mary Ellen (wife of Archibald) Peel and her infant child, 1867; and a third on the same wall bears medallion portraits, by Roubilliac, of the Rev. Thomas Myddelton and Arabella his wife. Heraldic tablets commemorate William Lloyd of Plas Power, 1793, and his daughter Mary, wife of Thomas Fitzhugh, 1784. Beneath the chancel stands the old crypt, where formerly the county records were preserved, but which now serves as the vestry. A light iron screen divides the chancel from the nave, and in the centre stands the old eagle lectern of brass, which was presented in 1524 by John ap Gryffydd of Plas-y-Stewart,<sup>1</sup> and then cost £6. On the north side stands the handsome pulpit, executed in white Mansfield stone, and supported upon red granite and Devonshire marble columns, having its panels richly arcaded, and filled with figures of our Lord as the Good Shepherd, and the Four Evangelists. At the west end stands the octagonal font, which has its panels carved with angels bearing the instruments of the passion on shields, and also two armorial shields.<sup>2</sup> Some years ago it served as an ornamental basin in the garden of Acton House, but was recovered, rechiselled and restored to its present position and use. A series of clerestory windows on either side lights up the nave and shows off its fine perpendicular roof, the pendant posts of which rest on corbels carved with the arms of benefactors; a lower row of corbels near the spring of the arches seems to show that a vaulted roof was once intended to have been erected. A modern monument to Sir Foster Cunliffe 1834, and Harriet his wife 1830, was the work of the same artist as the reredos, and near it stands the painting of King David, said to be by Rubens, which together with one of the Institution of the Last Supper, also said to have been by Titian,<sup>3</sup> was bought in Rome by Elihu Yale of Plasgronw, formerly a governor of Madras,<sup>4</sup>

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tem, vitæ integritatem, prudentiam et doctrinam, Regina Elizabetha primum ad Episcopatum Bangorensium in quo annos x sedit postea sid episcopatum Cestrensem transtulit, ex quo post paucos menses Christus in cælestem patriam evocavit anno Domini 1596, ætatis suæ liv."

<sup>1</sup> Pennant says "John ap Gryffydd ap Davydd of Ystivan", from Halston MSS.

<sup>2</sup> One of these, a portcullis, was one of the Tudor badges, and often carved as an ornament on buildings of the time of Henry VII and Henry VIII, and may be seen on an old house, the Hand Inn, on Town Hill.

<sup>3</sup> This was formerly the altar piece, but was sold a few years ago for £9 to make way for the painted east window.

<sup>4</sup> He died in 1721, and his tomb in the churchyard has this curious epitaph:

"Born in America, in Europe bred  
In Afric travell'd and in Asia wed  
Where long he liv'd and thriv'd; at London dead.  
Much good, some ill he did, so hope all's even  
And that his soul through mercy's gone to heaven.

and by him presented to this church. In the north aisle, the eastern bay of which formed the chapel of the Pulestons of Hafod-y-Wern, once stood a side altar flanked by shrines or niches, and its piscina still survives. To the north wall has lately (1867) been removed from the chancel, where it interfered with the north window, the famous monument to Miss Mary Myddelton of Croesnewydd, daughter of Sir Richard Myddelton of Chirk Castle, who died in 1747. She is represented as rising from the tomb, behind which totters a shattered obelisk, emblematic of the dissolution of all things, whilst at her side springs up a young and vigorous plant, an emblem of the Resurrection. It is the work of Roubilliac and is wrought in white marble, and whatever may be thought of the general design and proportion the exquisite workmanship must remain unchallenged. In the south aisle the Llwynonn Chapel with its piscina and niches has been already noticed, and in it are several monuments to that family. A shield of arms in the east wall without any motto or inscription is said to be that of Sir Richard Lloyd of Esclusham and of Dulasau in Carnarvonshire, a royalist, a judge, and a friend of Charles I, who went into exile during the Commonwealth, and died in 1676. There are many other monuments throughout the church which it is not necessary to mention, but there are a few quaint epitaphs deserving of record.<sup>1</sup> The old "Lych gate" has long ago been removed, but the name still survives in that of the adjoining house; the railing around the churchyard was erected at the close of the French war, and the cost, £380, defrayed out of the Army Reserve Fund.

In the earlier half of the last century a movement was started for the provision of a second church for Welsh services, and had progressed so far that a sum of £700 was subscribed,<sup>2</sup> and Bishop Wynne

You that survive and read take care  
 For this most certain exit to prepare;  
 For only the actions of the just  
 Smell sweet and blossom in the dust."

<sup>1</sup> "Here lies interr'd beneath these stones,  
 The beard, the flesh, and eke the bones,  
 Of Wrexham clerk, old Daniel Jones." 1668.

"Here lyes a churchwarden,  
 A choice flower in that garden:  
 Joseph Critchley by name,  
 Who lived in good fame;  
 Being gone to his rest,  
 Without doubt he is blest." 167½.

"Here lie five blessed children dear,  
 Three in Oswestry, and two here."

<sup>2</sup> The subscriptions embraced £100 each from Sir W. W. Wynn, John Meller, Mary Myddelton, and Dorothy Jeffreys; £20 each from Edw. Brere-



promised to assign for its endowment either the sinecure of Cilcain or some better one, and to procure an Act of Parliament to that effect.<sup>1</sup> Owing, however, to a disagreement about the patronage the design fell through and the money was returned with the exception of Miss Myddelton's, who not being willing to receive it back, transferred it to the endowment of Minera Chapelry.

The Grammar School owes its origin to Mr. Valentine Broughton, who, by his will in 1603, devised to the mayor and corporation of Chester lands in Bersham, Esclusham, and Broughton in charge to pay thereout £6 : 13 : 4 annually to a schoolmaster, and £3 : 6 : 8 more for the better maintenance of the choristers and singing men in the parish church.

The proportion received from this source, in accordance with a recent order in Chancery, was £25 by the schoolmaster, and £5 by the singing men. A rentcharge of £3 per annum on property in Wrexham Fecham was added by Mrs. Gwen Eyton, and a further sum of £5 per annum, being the interest of £100 bequeathed by the Rev. Ralph Weld, a Suffolk clergyman. At the beginning of this century the additional sum of £101 derived from the lands bequeathed by Lady Dorothy Jefferys had become applied to this endowment, raising it to £135 per annum, but in 1812 a sum of £60 per annum was deducted therefrom for the payment of the master of the Boys' Lancasterian School, and in 1817 Bishop Luxmoore directed a moiety of the £101 to be applied to the education of poor girls, soon after carried out in the new school built in the Tenter's field.<sup>2</sup> About the year 1800 the old school-house<sup>3</sup> was taken down and the present one erected.

The list of masters embraces

1662.—LEWIS, Ambrose <sup>4</sup>	1757.—PRICE, Robert, B.A. <sup>6</sup>
1729.—PULFORD, —, A.M.	1770.—TISDALE, Ch. Anson <sup>7</sup>
1748.—WILLIAMS, Thomas, B.A. <sup>5</sup>	1772.—DAVIES, Edward, B.A.

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ton, Robert Wynne, Peter Drelincourt; £10 from Thos. Holland, Humphrey Ffoulkes, Eliza Bennet, and Mary Bennet, etc.

<sup>1</sup> The services at this time were, "twice every Sunday, and two sermons; prayers twice every week-day, except Tuesday evening; children catechised every Wednesday and Friday in Lent; English prayers and sermon on Sunday mornings; Welsh prayers and Welsh sermon, or English prayers and an English sermon, on Sunday evenings alternately; except that the first lesson is always in English, and the second lesson always in Welsh; English prayers on the week-days."—Drummond.

<sup>2</sup> An infant room was added in 1872. A new National School is about to be erected at Rhosddu.

<sup>3</sup> This had become very ruinous in 1717, and a subscription was made to defray the cost of its repair, about £80. (G.)

<sup>4</sup> "A candidate for the (Presbyterian) ministry," but reckoned as an ejected minister, was licensed in 1662 as one of the three masters of this school. (MS. Book E.)

<sup>5</sup> V. Pennant, 1748.      <sup>6</sup> C. Berse.      <sup>7</sup> Master of Oswestry School, 1772.

1804.—SMEDLEY, James, B.A.

1813.—KENDAL, John

1809.—NORMAN, Samuel

1838.—ROBERTS, David

.—FLOATER, Josh.<sup>1</sup>

1867.—KIRK, Thomas, M.A., St. John's Coll., Cambridge, Prizeman and B.A., 1859; Deac., 1859; Pr., 1860; C. Wrawley with Brigg, Lincs., 1859; Author of *First Latin Book*, 1867; *Sermons and Tracts*.

The charities<sup>2</sup> consist of—

1. Lands in Holt 69 a. 1 r. 37 p., bought in 1745 for £822 7s., being with interest the bequests of Margaret Jeffreys, 1711 (£100 for poor and £20 for schooling), and Dorothy Jeffreys £400 in 1728 for teaching and apprenticing.

2. Upper Berse Farm 50 a. 1 r. 17 p., and Lower Berse Farm 50 a. 2 r. 1 p. by Mrs. Mary Drelincourt and her daughter Lady Primrose, 1762, for endowment of Berse Chapel and Free School.

3. Rentcharge of 6s. 8d. on Llay yn Lloiau by Margaret Hugh, 1658.

4. Land in Holt 12 a. 1 r. 22 p., left by Gerard Barber in 1660, to be equally divided between Holt and this parish.

5. Quillet in the Beast Market 3 r. 24 p. by Elizabeth Jones, 1663.

6. Eithin Ddu, 63 a. 2 r. 6 p., by Mr. J. Hughes of Rhosddu, 1663.

7. Rentcharge on "Cae Helyg," by Mr. M. Jones of Brymbo, 1663.

8. Lands in Holt 14 a. 2 r. 12 p. (in exchange for others in Dynhille isa) by Jane Eyton, 1632, charged with £2 per ann. to Rhuabon.

9. Rentcharge of £4 on Stansty by Mrs. Ann Williams, 1716.

10. Lands in Gresford 7 a. 3 r. 22 p., bought in 1733 for £150 Consolidated Benefactions.

11. Bronyngwys in Leeswood 14 a. 2 r. 10 p. bought in 1753, with £260 Consolidated Charities,<sup>3</sup> charged with £5 to the Grammar School.

12. Interest of £2,748 : 1 : 10 Three per Cents by Mr. Joshua Hughes, merchant of Jamaica, 1814, among six of the poorest housekeepers.

13. Interest of £85 (£100 minus legacy duty) by Mrs. Anne Roberts, 1815.

## VICARS.

.—KYFFIN, J.

1566.—SONTLEY, Hugh, A.B.<sup>5</sup>1520.—PYDLESTON, Hugh<sup>4</sup>1598.—LLOYD, Robert, B.D.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A layman, all his predecessors having been in holy orders.

<sup>2</sup> Several of the old charities of the parish were lost through the failure of the bank of R. M. Lloyd.

<sup>3</sup> £140, part of Dame Dorothy Jeffreys' bequest of £400 for education; £20 by Mrs. Mary Myddelton, of Croes Newydd, for the poor; and £100 by Rev. Mr. Weld for Grammar School.

<sup>4</sup> Preb. Llanfair, 1517; S. R. Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, 1533-66; S. R. Cwm, 1547-60; S. R. Hope, 1557.

<sup>5</sup> R. Marchwiall, 1556-98.

<sup>6</sup> Preb. Meliden, 1624; R. Halkin, 1594-1626.

1640.—OWEN, Rowland, A.M.<sup>1</sup>

.—[LLOYD, Morgan

.—MOSTYN, Ambrose]<sup>2</sup>1670.—SMYTHE, William<sup>3</sup>1684.—WYNNE, Peter, A.M.<sup>4</sup>1686.—PRICE, John A.M.<sup>5</sup>1716.—JONES, John, B.D.<sup>6</sup>

1731.—EDWARDS, Thomas, A.M.

1771.—SHIPLEY, W. D., M.A.<sup>7</sup>

1826.—CUNLIFFE, George, M.A., Ball. Coll., Oxford; Deac., 1819; Pr., 1820; Canon, 1855; R. Petton, dioc. Lichfield, 1822-66.

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### ST. MARK'S.

THIS church, erected by subscription and endowed by Miss Bennion, was consecrated on May 21st, 1858, as a chapel of ease to the parish church. Its ground plan is cruciform, comprising chancel, nave, north and south aisles, with a tower surmounted by a lofty spire at the south-west angle, the lower portion of which forms a porch, corresponding to which there is also a porch on the north side, and also a vestry and organ chamber at the junction of the chancel and north transept. The general character is Decorated, from the plans of Mr. R. Kyrke Penson. Internally a striking feature is its unusual height, indeed it has been found necessary for acoustic purposes to put up a second ceiling below the original roof, at an additional outlay of £500. In the chancel, the fine east window of five lights is filled with stained glass, illustrating by type and antitype, in twenty medallions, the Life of Our Lord, and is dedicated "in memory of Albert, Prince Consort of England by Mary Ann Bennion, of Wrexham Fechan, who also endowed the church A. S. MDCCCLXIII.IV.<sup>8</sup> The walls are richly coloured with stencilling from the designs of Mr. Owen Jones, the roof divided into panels and coloured, and the floor laid with Maw's encaustic tiles. A new organ by Whiteley of Chester has been erected at a cost of £540,<sup>9</sup> in lieu of the previous one by Holditch. The pulpit of Caen stone, panelled and foliated, stands at the east north-east angle, and is entered from the vestry. The octagonal font, supported on a pillar of green marble and standing on a tessellated platform, was "pre-

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<sup>1</sup> Deprived by the parliamentary sequestrators. See Walker's *Sufferings of the Clergy*, p. 325, and Lloyd's *Memoirs*.

<sup>2</sup> During *interregnum*. Ejected, and the vicar restored, 1662.

<sup>3</sup> R. Erbistock, 1670-80.

<sup>4</sup> Canon, 1678.

<sup>5</sup> Canon, 1693; Preb. Meliden, 1701. Deprived as a Non-juror.

<sup>6</sup> Preb. Meliden and S. R. Darowen, 1716; S. R. Hope, 1720.

<sup>7</sup> Son of Bishop Shipley. R. Ysgeifiog, 1770-1826; S. R. Llangwm, 1772-75; S. R. Corwen, 1774-82; S. R. Llanarmon-yn-Ial, 1782-1826; Chancellor of the Diocese, 1773; Dean of St. Asaph, 1774.

<sup>8</sup> The cost of the window was 400 guineas. The glass by Wailes of New-castle.

<sup>9</sup> Towards this £120 was received for the materials of the old one.



sented by T. Rowland, Esq., Mayor, A.D. 1869." The nave is lighted by a clerestory range of circular form, the royal arms and those of the see filling the two lights over the chancel arch. A window in the north aisle, by Wailes, representing the Presentation in the Temple, is a memorial to a former church cleaner who was accidentally killed by falling into a sewer; another window on the south side, illustrating the raising of Lazarus and the confession of St. Thomas, also by Wailes, is in memory of Thomas Hughes, solicitor, 1863, "*Amico desideratissimo amici mærentes.*" The first cost of the church was about £8,000,<sup>1</sup> total to the present time about £10,000.

The endowment consists of £116 from the tithes of Minera, bought by the late Miss Bennion, and transferred to trustees.

#### INCUMBENTS.

1858.—ROBERTS, James Clarke, M.A., Magdalen Hall, Oxford.<sup>2</sup>

1869.—WILLIAMS, John, St. Bees, R. Newtown, 1871.

1871.—GIBBON, Jas. Harris, Lampeter; Scholar; Deac., 1866; Pr., 1867; C. Kerry, 1866-67; Llanllwchaiarn, 1867.

#### BERSE, *alias* BERSE DRELINCOURT.

THIS is a chapel of ease to Wrexham, built and endowed by Mrs. Mary Drelinecourt, widow of Dr. Peter Drelinecourt, chaplain to the Duke of Ormond and Dean of Armagh. By his will, dated 19th Jan., 1716, the dean left *inter alia* "£700 to build a charity school on his estates in Wales";<sup>3</sup> and in 1742 his widow built this chapel, which at her death, about 1751, she also endowed with the house in which she lived as a residence for the curate.<sup>4</sup> In 1760 a grant of £200 was made by lot by Queen Anne's Bounty; in 1762 two other grants of £200 to meet two rentcharges of £8 each, granted respectively by Anne, Viscountess Primrose (daughter of Dean and Mrs. Drelinecourt),

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Canon Cunliffe, vicar, £525; C. K. Mainwaring and Thos. Irvine, Esqs., £200; Sir R. H. Cunliffe, £150; J. Burton, Esq., £125; Bishop Short, Marquis of Westminster, Miss Bennion, Thos. Fitzhugh, T. T. Griffith, M.D., and John Lewis, Esq., each £100; Miss Cunliffe, £80; Sir Roger Palmer, H. W. Meredith, T. Ll. Fitzhugh, J. Foulkes, and Mrs. Oakley, Tanybwllch, £50; E. Williams, M.D., and Th. Hughes, £30; etc. Incorporated Church Building Society and Diocesan Church Building Society, each £400; Commissioners for building Churches, £300.

<sup>2</sup> V. Eastbury, 1868; V. West Wycombe, dioc. Oxon., 1869; R. Ryton, dioc. Lichfield, 1872.

<sup>3</sup> Ffynnogion, in the parish of Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd, belonged to them, and was at one time their residence; and Newcome, in his *Memoirs of Dean and Bishop Goodman*, states that the idea of this foundation was derived from that of Jesus Chapel in that parish. Mrs. Drelinecourt had, however, founded a similar establishment at Armagh ten years before this one.

<sup>4</sup> During her life she allowed him £20 per annum.

and by the Archbishop of York and Robert Chester, Esq., and these three sums of £600 were invested on the 22nd Jan., 1766, in the purchase of a tenement in Llanferras, containing about 36 acres. A subsequent augmentation was made in 1821 from the Parliamentary grant, and this sum (£678 : 18 : 6) is invested in Three per Cents. Reduced. The income from these several sources, viz., two rentcharges on Middle Berse £16, rent of Llanferras tenement £50, and £20 : 7 : 4 from Queen Anne's Bounty, amounting to £86 : 7 : 4 per annum, with the house constitute the incumbent's stipend. Patron, the bishop of the diocese.

The chapel, built in 1742, and consecrated<sup>1</sup> on Sept. 13, 1759, by Bishop Newcome of Llandaff, under a commission for the Bishop of St. Asaph, is a small plain building, with a monument on the north wall "to the memory of Mrs. Mary Drelincourt, foundress of the school and chapel," with the apostrophe to the "reader, if thou wilt practice like her the virtues of humanity and charity thou wilt most assuredly meet with a reward." At the east end are paintings, representing respectively Moses and Aaron with the Decalogue, the Apostles each with an appropriate sentence of the Creed, the whole armour of God, the Works of Mercy, and the disciples at Emmaus. Above the window is an open Bible with the text St. John i, 17. The communion plate consists of a flagon, a paten, and a chalice, the last humbly dedicated to Berse Drelincourt Chapple" by Mrs. Ellinor Morris of Penybont, 1742.

The Charity School.—This was founded for the education of twenty poor girls, eight of whom from the parish of Wrexham and two from Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd, are to be clothed, educated, and maintained, and the other ten clothed and educated only. The boarders in charge of a mistress live in a house adjoining that given by Mrs. Drelincourt for the curate, and for their support Lady Primrose in 1762 gave to the Bishop of St. Asaph (Visitor), the Dean of St. Asaph, and the Vicars of Wrexham and Llanfair two farms, viz., Upper Berse 50 a. 1 r. 17 p. and Lower Berse 50 a. 2 r. 1 p., a portion of which has subsequently been sold by the trustees to Mr. Fitzhugh; the whole income is now a little under £250 per annum.<sup>2</sup>

#### PERPETUAL CURATES.<sup>3</sup>

1768.—PRICE, Robt., B.A., P. C. Minera, 1764; R. Bodfari, 1765-1812.

1812.—WHITLEY, Edward.

1819.—JONES, Thomas.

1842.—BURTON, Robert Owen, M.A., of Minera Hall.

1860.—WILLIAMS, Thomas, King's Coll., London; Theol. Assoc.<sup>4</sup>

1874.—EDWARDS, David, C. Llandudno, 1870-4.

<sup>1</sup> It was not consecrated at the first; but its consecration was one of the conditions of Lady Primrose's endowment. (Char. Report, p. 147.)

<sup>2</sup> A sum of £5 towards the church expenses, and £3 to the parish clerk, were formerly charged upon the property.

<sup>3</sup> Till 1844 this was held with Minera.

<sup>4</sup> V. Connah's Quay, 1874.

## BRYMBO.

THIS ecclesiastical district was formed out of the parish of Wrexham by an Order in Council 27th November, 1844, and comprises the township of Brymbo and a part of Broughton, having an area of 3,226 acres, and a population, chiefly mining, of 7,094.<sup>1</sup>

The endowment is made up as follows :

£	s.	d.	
17	0	0	in 3½ per Cent. Consols. <sup>2</sup>
31	19	8	out of rectorial tithes of Brymbo. <sup>3</sup>
38	3	10	ditto of Bersham. <sup>3</sup>
74	16	0	ditto of Broughton. <sup>4</sup>
1	0	0	the vicarial tithe in Brymbo. <sup>5</sup>
152	0	0	grants made by Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1859 and 1866.
£314	19	6	

In 1839 a vicarage house and two acres of glebe were purchased for £488, and in 1870 these were sold to the Great Western Railway Company for £1,600, of which sum £750 was invested in land, 9½ acres for new glebe, and the balance £850, with £400 borrowed from Queen Anne's Bounty, laid out on the new vicarage erected in 1873. Patron, the Vicar of Wrexham.

The first church erected in 1837 and consecrated July 31st, 1838, proved after a while to have been built upon a "fault," and symptoms of dilapidation and danger having shown themselves the services were transferred in 1869 to the schools, where also the same evil developed itself. Of this church the only portion now standing is the west end above the fault, and this has been partitioned off and is now used as a mortuary chapel. The original cost of this church was £1,280.

The foundation stone of the new church, St. Mary's, was laid on Aug. 15, 1871, by the Marquis of Westminster, and the consecration took place on Sept. 10th, 1872. The plan comprises nave, with south porch, north and south transepts, and an elongated semicircular apse, with a south organ chamber, and a vestry on the north side; the external outline of the roof being pleasingly varied by a double bell gable at the junction of the chancel and transepts. It is in the Early English style from the designs of Mr. T. H. Wyatt. The roof of the chancel is vaulted in pitch pine laid diagonally, and the floor paved with Maw's encaustic tiles; a credence stands on the north side and

<sup>1</sup> The perpetual curate of Berse, who, as such, has no cure of souls, takes pastoral charge of Pentre isa in Broughton, with a population of about 1,700.

<sup>2</sup> Interest of £548 invested in stock for the original endowment.

<sup>3</sup> Bought in 1858, from Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., for £1,100.

<sup>4</sup> Bought in 1858, from Mr. R. V. Kyrke, for £1,400.

<sup>5</sup> Given up by vicar of Wrexham.



triple sedilia on the south, the windows consist of five lancets, the central one being filled with stained glass of the Crucifixion, the gift of the architect; detached shafts of Chester red sandstone support the chancel arch. The pulpit, which is temporary, carved oak lectern, and the organ are all from the old church; but the font, which is wrought in stone from the Moss Quarry within the parish, and stands on clustered pillars of red sandstone, is new, and was presented by the contractor, Mr. J. Roberts of Chester. Total cost £3,300.<sup>1</sup>

The schools, built originally in 1850-51 by the Trustees of the Wrexham charities, at a cost of £1,095, were rebuilt in 1871, the Great Western and London and North Western Railway Companies contributing £1,300. Endowment as at Minera.

At "Bwlchgwyn," a populous hamlet in this district, a school church was erected in 1867, at a cost of £800; and divine service is now held regularly therein, a grant of £60 having been made by the Church Extension Society towards the payment of a resident curate.<sup>2</sup>

## VICARS.

1838.—MARSDEN, T.

1840.—DAVIES, JO., P. C. Pontbleiddyn, 1836-40; Eglwys Rhos, 1846.

1846.—DAVIES, Wm. Gabriel, R. Cemmaes, 1856.

1856.—JONES, William, St. Bees; Deac. and Pr., 1854; Curate of Ellaston, 1854-6; Llanstffraid Glyn Dyfrdwy, 1856.

MINERA.<sup>3</sup>

THIS ecclesiastical district, formed out of Wrexham by an Order in Council, passed May 23rd, and gazetted Dec. 6, 1844, comprised the townships of Minera and Esclusham Above (Offa's Dyke), to which was added by a subsequent order in 1865 so much of the township of Bersham as lies to the west of the Dyke, giving it an area of 4,740 acres, and a population of 5,049.

It is not known when or by whom this chapelry was founded, but it is mentioned by Bishop Lloyd, and the curate's stipend in his time was £7 a year.<sup>4</sup> In 1729 Mrs. Mary Myddelton of Groes newydd

<sup>1</sup> Subscribers,—Marquis of Westminster, £500; Great Western Railway Company, £250; Mr. H. Robertson, £225; Mr. R. Roy, £200; Westminster Company, £100; Diocesan Church Building Society, £150; Bishop Short, Bishop Carey's Fund, and Rev. R. O. Burton, each £50; etc.

<sup>2</sup> The first in charge is Williams, George, B.A., late Scholar of Queen's College, Cambridge; D. and P., 1869; C. Halkin, 1869-71; Newtown, 1871-3.

<sup>3</sup> Alias "Mwnglawdd," i. e., "the Mine Dyke," probably in allusion to Offa's Dyke, which bounds the district.

<sup>4</sup> *Supra*, p. 121. A charge of 10s. per annum on Gwern y Gaseg is also early mentioned, in lieu of which Mr. Burton paid £10 to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. With this correspond the returns to the Exchequer, 20 Nov.,

transferred her subscription of £200, which she had intended for the Welsh church in Wrexham to Queen Anne's Bounty in augmentation of this cure, and this sum being met with a similar amount, to which a later one in 1789 was added, the whole was invested in the purchase of glebe lands, which (inclusive of 2 a. 0 r. 20 p. conveyed by the vicar of Wrexham) amount to 52 a. 2 r. 10 p.,<sup>1</sup> valued at £81 15s. per annum. There are also a sum of £27 : 8 : 6 per annum (the interest of £914 : 5 : 8<sup>2</sup> from the Parliamentary fund of Queen Anne's Bounty), two payments of £11 and £5 per annum by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners,<sup>3</sup> and an annual grant of £173, made by them July 31, 1873. The house was built in 1849 at an outlay of £525, of which sum £132 were received from sale of old vicarage, £50 as compensation from Shrewsbury and Chester Railway, and £200 from Queen Anne's Bounty. The patronage belongs to the Vicar of Wrexham.

The old church, enlarged in 1733, had become so dilapidated and so inadequate to the wants of the parish, that it was determined in 1864 to rebuild it.<sup>4</sup> This was done in 1865 in the form of a Greek cross, with a tower and porch on the south side attached by a cloister to the transept, and a vestry at the angle of the chancel and north transept.<sup>5</sup> The style is Decorated, from the plans of Kennedy and Rogers of Bangor, and externally it has a handsome appearance, the tower especially being enriched with ornamental bands and mouldings. Internally the roof of the central portion is supported on clustered pillars and brackets at each angle, the rest on carved brackets. An organ occupies an arcading on the north of the chancel. The east window of four lights, Christ Blessing little Children, The Good Samaritan, The Last Supper, and the Agony, is "in memory of John

1707. "This is said to have no endowment, except the interest of £10, and the collection every Lord's Day, amounting to about £5 a year; *i. e.*, £5 10s." (Bishop Drummond's MS.)

<sup>1</sup> Viz., *Erw ucha* and *Erw isa*, 2 a. 20 p.; *Hafod y Bwch*, 15 a. 1 r. 27 p.; *Wern*, 22 a. 3 r. 29 p.; *Cae Llewelyn*, 4 a. 1 r. 24 p.; and *Gwern y bleddyn*, 8 a. 14 p.

<sup>2</sup> Grants of £200 in 1810, and £600 in 1816.

<sup>3</sup> Interest of royalties received from *Fron* and *Hafod y bwch* Collieries respectively.

<sup>4</sup> The churchyard was regarded as private property up to 1847, in which year it was purchased and consecrated; and yet burials took place in it before, as there is a stone in the porch, "Robert Hughes buried, 1710." Possibly, indeed, this may have been the donor of the charge on *Gwern-y-gareg*, and it *may* have been of his private foundation.

<sup>5</sup> The total cost was £2,331 : 2 : 2, chief contributors being £450 by *Minera Mining Company*, £150 each by *Rev. R. O.* and *Miss C. E. Burton*; £125 by *Ll. Fitzhugh*; £100, *Bishop Short*; £75, *Marquis of Westminster*; £70, *Lady Hartland*; £50, *John Burton*, *Thos. Edgeworth*, *Richard Ellerton*, and *H. Hodson, Esqrs.*; £40, *Dixon and Co.*, *Chester*; £50 : 12 : 6, *bazaar*; £41 : 16 : 9, *opening offertories*; etc.

Burton, Esq., of Minera Hall, 1860, and Elizabeth his wife, 1829," by their children. Another window in the north transept, The Good Shepherd, Healing the Paralytic, and Curing the Blind, was erected by shareholders of the Minera Mining Company, in memory of their chairman, Alexander Reid," ob. 1866, æt. 73.

The schools here, as at Brymbo, were erected in 1850-51 by the Trustees of the Wrexham charities, and are endowed with £50 per ann. thereout. The plans were by Mr. R. Kyrke Penson; and the cost £1,230, provided from funds which had accumulated in the Court of Chancery in the cause of the Attorney-General *v.* Jackson, aided by local subscriptions.

PERPETUAL CURATES AND VICARS.<sup>1</sup>

1734.—JONES, Lewis	1842.—BURTON, R. Owen, M.A. <sup>3</sup>
1768.—PRICE, Robert, B.A. <sup>2</sup>	1846.—DAVIES, Wm., B.A. <sup>4</sup>
1813.—WHITLEY, Edward	1849.—EDWARDS, Griff., M.A. <sup>5</sup>
1828.—JONES, Thomas	1863.—JONES, T. Jeffrey <sup>6</sup>

1872.—WILLIAMS, John, M.A., Jes. Coll., Oxford, 3rd Class Nat. Sc., and B.A., 1867; Deac., 1868; Pr., 1869; Curate of Pontbleiddyn 1868-9; Nanmerch, 1870-2.

<sup>1</sup> Till 1844 this and Berse Drelincourt were held together.

<sup>2</sup> R. Bodfari, 1765-1813.

<sup>3</sup> Worcester College, Oxford. Of Minera Hall.

<sup>4</sup> C. Wrexham, 1849.

<sup>5</sup> R. Llangadfan, 1863.

<sup>6</sup> R. Llangar, 1872.



ADDENDA  
OF  
DIOCESAN SOCIETIES, RESTORATIONS,  
PROMOTIONS,  
ETC.

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DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION.

THIS Board was instituted October 31, 1870, on the passing of the "Elementary Education Act," for the twofold purpose of supplying the deficiency of accommodation, and of promoting the efficiency of more especially the religious teaching in the church schools of the diocese. To this end grants have been made (1) towards the erection of new and the enlargement of existing church schools; (2) towards the maintenance of schools in poor and extensive parishes; and (3) in payment of an inspector<sup>1</sup> to examine and report upon the religious knowledge imparted in the schools generally.

1. The following building grants have been made:

£100 Bala, Llangollen, Newtown and Rhyl.

£70 Flint (Pentre), Llanrhaiadr D. C., Nerquis, Pontbleiddyn, Rhyd-y-mwyn.

£50 Bryneglwys, Connah's Quay (St. Mark's), Glyndyfrdwy, Moughtre, Oswestry (Trinity), Pontfadog.

£40 Corwen (infants), Derwen, Llanbedr, Nannerch, Welsh Pool.

£35 Dolanog, Gwaunysgor, Gwersyllt, Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog.

£30 Bettws (Dolforwyn), Marchwial, Northop, Kinnerley (Maesbrook).

£25 Chirk (infants), Oswestry (par. ch.) Wrexham, Llanelidan.

£20 Gwersyllt (Croes Street), Llangwm, Llansannan.

2. The proportion of the "Bevan Fund" which has annually been assigned by the trustees for the benefit of this diocese has been entrusted to the management of this board.

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<sup>1</sup> For the year 1872-73, the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge made a grant of £100 towards the payment of his salary, £350; and for 1873-74, one of £70. Till the year 1872 the examination of the schools had been carried on by voluntary inspectors for each deanery.

3. The Diocesan Inspector<sup>1</sup> devotes his whole time to the inspection of week-day and the improvement of Sunday schools. Parchment certificates are issued to the masters and mistresses of schools which attain the standard of "very fair"; cards of merit to the best scholars in each school, and book prizes to the best in the diocese, as well as to the best pupil teachers of each year and their head teachers, and special prizes for competition among Sunday scholars.

Donors of £10 and upwards :

- £250 by the late Bishop Short (£150 being for inspection).
- £100 Duke of Westminster, K.G.; Earl of Powis; Margaret Dowager Lady Willoughby de Broke, and Sir W. Williams-Wynn, Bart.
- £50 Lord Sudeley, Mrs. Williams-Wynn of Cefn, Mrs. Jones Bate-man, and J. R. Ormsby-Gore, Esq., M.P.
- £30 Edmund Peel, Esq., of Brynypys.
- £25 Earl of Bradford, Lord Richard Grosvenor, M.P., Lord A. E. Hill-Trevor, M.P., Lady Augusta Mostyn, Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., C. F. Beyer, John Dugdale, T. G. Norris, and Edmund Wright, Esqrs., Mrs. Perry and Miss Mesham.
- £20 Hon. Mrs. Kenyon, Brogyntyn; Sir S. R. Glynne, Bart.; Wm. Chambres, R. G. Ellis, J. R. Heaton, and E. Hilton, Esqrs., and Archdeacon Wickham.
- £10 Sir Hugh Williams, Bart.; Dean of St. Asaph, Archdeacon Ffoulkes, Mrs. Ffoulkes, R. Blezard, Esq., Major Lloyd, T. O. Lomax, and H. R. Sandbach, Esqrs.

#### THE CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY.

THIS Society was instituted July 27th, 1871, for the purpose of assisting (1) local effort in supporting additional curates and lay assistants for extra English and Welsh services where required; and (2) young men of limited means to prepare for holy orders.

1. As an illustration of the former want there were nineteen parishes in the diocese, whose population, chiefly engaged in mining and manufacturing labour, amounted to 66,107, and they required the ministrations of the church in two languages, the number of clergy being only twenty-seven. To meet this grants have been made, on condition of additional services, of

- £60 per annum to Bala, Corwen, Brymbo (Bwlchgwyn), Flint, Holywell, Bistre, Mold, Pontbleiddyn, and Llanfair Caereinion.
- £50 Denbigh, Llandrillo yn Rhos, Rhuabon, Rosset, and Welsh Pool.
- £40 Colwyn, Hanmer, and Berriew.
- £30 Llanfor (Sarnau).
- £20 Rhyl.

<sup>1</sup> John Arthur Jackson, B.A., St. David's, Lampeter; Creaton and Jocelyn Prizes. Deacon and Priest, 1870; curate of Lampeter, 1870-72.

2. In furtherance of the second object a grant of £30, two college exhibitions of £20, and three school exhibitions of £15 have been awarded.

Donations :

- £100 Bishop Short, Edmund Peel, and T. T. Griffith, Esqrs.
- £25 Lady Mary Windsor-Clive, Sir S. R. Glynne, Bart., T. L. Longueville, and John Lewis, Esqrs.
- £20 Dean of St. Asaph.
- £20 Rev. Th. Morgan; Wm. Overton and Edward Williams, Esqrs., Wrexham.

Annual subscribers :

- £100 Earl of Powis, Sir W. Williams-Wynn, Bart., M.P., William Chambres, Esq., Dolben, and Miss Mesham, Pontryffydd.
- £20 Bishop of St. Asaph, Lord Bagot,<sup>1</sup> Hon. C. H. Wynn of Rhug,<sup>1</sup> Sir R. A. Cunliffe, Bart.,<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Lloyd of Rhaggat,<sup>1</sup> H. Robertson, Esq., M.P.,<sup>1</sup> and W. Wagstaff, Esq.,<sup>1</sup>
- £10 10s. T. Hughes of Ystrad<sup>1</sup> and T. Kyffin Roberts, Esqs.
- £10 Duke of Westminster, K.G.; Lord Richard Grosvenor, M.P.; Sir S. R. Glynne, Bart.; Archdeacons Ffoulkes (for exhibition) and Wickham, J. Scott Bankes, Miss Jones, Tynllwyn,<sup>1</sup> Canon Hugh Morgan,<sup>1</sup> P. P. Pennant,<sup>1</sup> and C. W. Williams-Wynn, M.P., Coedymaen.

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DIOCESAN CHURCH BUILDING SOCIETY.

Original donors of £10 and upwards :

- £500 Bishop Carey.
- £150 Colonel Wynn of Garthewin.
- £100 Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford.
- £70 Rev. George Robson, Canon.
- £60 Earl of Bradford.
- £50 Viscount Clive, Lord Kenyon, Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., Sir Rob. Cunliffe, Bart., Rev. W. Cleaver, Rev. James Drake, Rev. H. Holland Edwards, Wilson Jones, Esq., D. Pennant, Esq., Prin. and Fellows of Jesus Coll., Oxford, and Rev. N. Pemberton.
- £30 Archdeacon Clough, Rev. G. N. K. Lloyd, Selattyn.
- £26 Mrs. Allanson.
- £20 Rev. Dr. Bull, Rd. Garnons, Esq., Rev. James Price, R. Llanfechain, Rev. Rowland Wingfield.
- £15 Lord Willoughby de Eresby.
- £10 Revs. T. Alban, Geo. Cunliffe, Archdeacon Chambres-Jones, R. Wynne Eytton, and T. Pennant; Mrs. E. Giffard and Serjeant Atcherley, John Douglas, Joseph Hayes Lyon, Edw. Oakeley, Edw. Pemberton, F. C. Phillips, and T. R. Trueman, Esqrs.

Legacies: £1,266:0:4 Bishop Carey; £200 Miss Mesham of Pontryffydd; £100 Miss Griffith, Llanfyllin.



## BISHOP CAREY'S FUND.

MRS. Mary Carey, widow of the Right Reverend W. Carey, D.D., Bishop of St. Asaph, bequeathed at her death, which took place on the 27th June, 1861, £5,000 £3 per Cent. Consolidated Annuities in addition to £10,000 like stock transferred to trustees in her lifetime, to create a trust fund under the denomination of "Bishop Carey's Fund," the annual produce thereof after her decease to be applied to the following charitable purposes, viz., "In building or enlarging or providing sites for churches or chapels within the diocese of St. Asaph; the building, purchasing, or endowing of schools within that diocese for the education of the poor, and the building or purchasing of residences for the master or mistresses of such schools; the providing parsonage houses and sites and glebe lands for any such churches and chapels; and the assisting of decayed and indigent clergymen, and their widows and orphans of the diocese of St. Asaph."

Mrs. Carey directed also that the said fund be held and disposed of for the purposes aforesaid under the management of a board of trustees, to consist in the first instance of the Ven. Hugh Chambres Jones, Archdeacon of Essex; Rev. J. Bull, Canon of Christ Church; and Rev. W. Levett, Vicar of Bray, or the survivors or survivor of them together with the Bishop of St. Asaph, the Dean and four Canons residentiary of the Cathedral Church of St. Asaph and of five lay members of the Established Church resident within the diocese of St. Asaph, who should be appointed by the said bishop.

By a deed dated the 20th Sept., 1861, Archdeacon Chambres Jones, being Mrs. Carey's sole surviving executor, transferred into the names of four members of the above board as new trustees £13,500 £3 per Cent. Consols, being the aforementioned sums less £1,500 succession and legacy duty. This sum was subsequently augmented, Feb. 21st, 1862, by a gift of £100 by Mrs. Levett and Miss Sheepshanks, and by a further donation of £300 on July 18th, 1862, from Miss Mary Carey, which sums being invested in Three per Cents. Consols produced respectively £106:15:10 and £322 3s., and further, Nov. 23rd, 1869, by a transfer of £100 Three per Cent. Consols the bequest of the said Archdeacon Chambres Jones. The total amount now being £14,028:18:10.

The grants made for the several objects of the fund during the ten years from 1862 to 1871 inclusive amounted respectively to £1,931 for churches; £1,656 for schools; £260 for parsonages; £205 for clergy and widows. Total, £4,052.

## NEW PARISHES, RESTORATIONS, AND AUGMENTATIONS.

*The Cathedral.*—The proposed restoration of the nave<sup>1</sup> has been taken in hand and is now fast progressing towards completion. The plaster ceiling has been removed and the old clerestory range on the north side reopened and made to correspond with that on the south. This alteration has brought into striking prominence the fine but simple proportions of the original nave, and when the oak vaulting of the roof is completed it will vastly improve the simple but effective appearance of the whole edifice.

## DEANERY OF ST. ASAPH.

*St. Asaph Parish Church.*—The contemplated restoration<sup>2</sup> has now been completed, and comprises the removal of the old pews, gallery, pulpit, and desk, the removal of the organ to the east end of the north aisle, the cleaning and renewing of the walls and of the north roof, the substitution of open seats throughout, and the paving of the chancel with Maw's encaustic tiles; the addition of a well carved pulpit,<sup>3</sup> and the insertion of a stained glass window at the west end in memory of Capt. Whiteman Thomas of Brynclwy, ob. 1867, the subjects being—centre, Angels ministering to Our Lord after His agony; side-lights, Joshua and the Angel, and Our Lord and the Centurion. The remaining windows are filled with ground cathedral glass with a green border. Externally, a new porch has been built on the south and a vestry on the north side; the church reslated and a new bell gable put up, and the churchyard levelled and improved. The outlay amounted to £1,845 : 8 : 2½,<sup>4</sup> and the reopening took place on St. Luke's Day, Oct. 18, 1872.

*St. Mary's Cefn.*—The Ecclesiastical Commissioners have assigned a sum of £1,500 (gazetted Apr. 4, 1873) towards the erection of a rectory house, with interest at 3 per cent. until the same be expended. The Charity Commissioners have also transferred to this parish, by order 28th Nov., 1873, two charities, amounting respectively to £213 : 6 : 8 and £84 : 17 : 6 Consols 3 per Cents.

<sup>1</sup> Page 214.

<sup>2</sup> P. 273.

<sup>3</sup> The gift of Mrs. Hughes, The Cottage. Cost, £45.

<sup>4</sup> Of this, the Dowager Lady Willoughby de Broke, Sir Hugh Williams, Bart., and Mrs. Williams-Wynn of Cefn, each contributed £300; Mr. H. R. Hughes of Kinmel, £200; Mrs. Lloyd (The Brow) and Mr. W. Chambres of Dolben, £100; Diocesan Church Building Society, £75; Bishop Short and Carey Fund, £50; etc. Architect, Sir G. G. Scott, R.A.

*All Saints' School Church* in this parish, erected at a cost of £200,<sup>1</sup> was opened on Nov. 1, 1873, and divine service is performed in it both on Sundays and week-days.

*Disserth*.—The Ecclesiastical Commissioners, in 1871, augmented the tithe rent charge, payable to the vicar, to £348 3s. In the same year the churchyard was enlarged, and consecrated Oct. 13th. The restoration of the church, now being carried on after the plans of Sir G. G. Scott, comprises the entire rearrangement of the interior, the renewal of the roof, the rebuilding of a portion of the west and south walls, the erection of a new south porch, and the addition on the north side of a transept and organ chamber.<sup>2</sup> Built up into the south-west wall was discovered the base of a very early cross, ornamented with a rudely carved human figure, a cross within a circle, and interlaced work, similar in character to that on the churchyard cross, and on Maen Achwynfan. Portions of a shaft of corresponding design were also found in the churchyard, as also a fine floriated tombstone with a double inscription commemorating two brothers, HIC : IACET : ROBERT : F' : RYN : F' BLED' : F' : MAD' : and HIC : IACET : H... F' : RYN : F' : BLED' : F' : MAD'. The fine Jesse window is to be restored under the care of Ward and Hughes at an estimated outlay of £170, as a memorial by parishioners and friends of the late Mr. Shipley Conwy and his sister the Hon. Mrs. Rowley of Bodrhyddan.

*Llanasa*.—By an Order in Council 4th May, 1871, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have assigned out of the lapsed rectorial tithes £58 : 12 : 2½ in augmentation of the vicarage (now £358 : 12 : 2½), £120 in payment of a stipendiary curate for the parish, and £125 : 12 : 7 in augmentation of Prestatyn. A mission room has been opened at Gronant; £145 have been collected for building a new church at "Ffynnon Groyw", and £840 for the restoration of the parish church, the respective estimates being £850 and £1,570.

*Prestatyn* has received an augmentation of £125 : 12 : 7 out of the rectorial tithes of Llanasa, raising the gross income to £359 : 4 : 11.

*Rhuddlan*.—The sum of £71 : 2 : 10 commuted to the "Archdeacon of Disserth" has been divided by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners between the vicar of the parish, £18 : 5 : 6, and the vicar of Rhyl £52 : 17 : 4, order dated 1871. In the parish church the old tower arch has been reopened and the base converted into a vestry, in lieu of the previous one which now forms the baptistry. Two new windows by Ward and Hughes have also been added, representing the Visitation of the Sick and the Annunciation, the gift of Sir George

<sup>1</sup> Towards this Mrs. Williams-Wynn and Mr. Wm. Chambres each gave £50; Mrs. Lloyd, The Brow, £30; Rev. R. H. Howard, £20. Cartage given. Accommodation for seventy children.

<sup>2</sup> Estimated outlay, £1,500.



Lockwood. A handsome brass eagle lectern has also been presented by Hon. Colonel Rowley.

*Rhyl*.—An augmentation of £52 : 17 : 4, out of the tithes of the mother parish, was made by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1871.

*St. Thomas's Church*.—The furnishing of the chancel has now been completed, with the exception of a reredos, and comprises richly carved choir seats, handsome altar rails and standards, and a flooring of encaustic tiles.

Polished marble shafts have also been inserted as supports to the principals along the clerestory range, and the carving of the capitals, both in the interior and the exterior of the church, has been completed.<sup>1</sup> The completion of the spire and the addition of a peal of bells are now also both in hand ; and a considerable sum already subscribed. Two new ragged schools, with teachers' houses attached, have also been built in the Vale Road and Wellington Road respectively at a total cost of £1,200.

*Tremeirchion*.—The pews are being now removed and open seats substituted in this church, and it is intended gradually to complete its restoration. The proceeds of the sale of the old churchyard cross<sup>2</sup> were applied to the previous reseating of the church in 1842.

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#### DEANERY OF CAEDEWEN.

*Berriew*.—A third school church has been erected at the "Fron," near Pennant, as a memorial to Mr. and Mrs. Buckley-Williams by their daughter Mary Buckley-Williams of Glanhafren. It has accommodation for 120 worshippers, cost £600, and was opened on Friday, April 25th, 1873. The present vicar being now, with the rector of Knockin, the only surviving pluralists in the diocese, it may be interesting to note the difference between the theory and practice of pluralism ere it entirely pass away, inasmuch as the archbishop's dispensation, granted to Mr. Luxmoore, to hold the rectory of Llany-mawddwy or Llanymynech with Berriew, requires "that thirteen sermons should be preached by him every year where he does not reside ; that he reside two months yearly in the one where he does not usually do so, and that he exercise hospitality and charity to the poor."

*Bettws*.—A reredos of beautiful design and workmanship was put up in the parish church, in the autumn of 1871, by Mrs. P. Buckley-Williams in memory of her husband. It consists of five panels with trefoils, finials, and cresting, each filled with a single figure, the centre

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<sup>1</sup> Total cost, £1,446 ; of which the carving amounted to £640 ; chancel-seats, etc., £339 ; encaustic pavement, £201 ; gaseliers, £60 ; heating, £60 ; altar-rail, £49.

<sup>2</sup> P. 308.

representing Our Lord upon the Cross, and the side ones the four Evangelists.

*Newtown, St. Mary's.*—The great want of free accommodation and an improved taste in ecclesiastical architecture have combined to bring about an effective reconstruction of this church. The great galleries that surrounded the nave have been removed, and free and open seats of oak to accommodate 1,010 persons substituted for the pews; and in lieu of the small sacarium a large chancel has been added, with an organ chamber on the north and a vestry on the south. The shafts of the sedilia, doors, and side arches are of black Irish marble; the floor paved with encaustic tiles, and the ceiling and walls decorated with colour. The stained glass of the east window, by Clayton and Bell, is in illustration of the events of the Life of our Lord, the central light being occupied with the subjects of the great festivals. The designs have been prepared by Mr. David Walker, of Liverpool, in the early Decorated style, and the outlay has been about £3,000.

*The Old Church.*—The rebuilding of this church is being taken in hand, with more especial reference to the needs of the Welsh portion of the population. At present, however, the restoration of the tower is the only part completed.<sup>1</sup> It is proposed to replace the screen in its old position here, but without the loft.

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#### DEANERY OF DENBIGH.

*Denbigh, St. Mary's* (p. 365).—This church, the foundation stone of which was laid on the 6th July, 1861, by Miss Mesham of Pont-Ruffydd,<sup>2</sup> a munificent contributor to its funds, has now been completed, but, owing to objections taken to the reredos, the consecration, which had been fixed upon for January 29th, 1874, has been unhappily delayed. The style is the Decorated, from the designs of Messrs. Lloyd Williams and Underwood, and the ground plan comprises chancel, choir with aisles (the north for organ chamber and vestry, and that on the south specially appropriated to the scholars of the Howell's School), nave with north and south aisles of five bays, a cloistered porch at the west end, and a lofty tower at the south transept. The material is the light-coloured local limestone, irregularly pointed with dressings from the Minera quarries. The parapet of the tower is set off with rich crockets and finials, and within is a fine peal of eight bells,<sup>3</sup> which may also be rung by carillon. Internally, the chancel,

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<sup>1</sup> About £200 have been spent upon it.

<sup>2</sup> Her donations, inclusive of £500 for the chancel furniture, comprise the reredos, tower, peal of bells, clock, and organ, amounting in all to £4,300.

<sup>3</sup> The first occasion on which they were used was on the funeral of their donor, on November 1st, 1873.

which is raised above the level of the nave and divided into choir and sacarium, is handsomely furnished with carved oak seats, and between rich altar rails and standards, and paved with Maw's encaustic tiles. The reredos, beautifully carved in Caen stone by Earp, is divided by marble shafts into three compartments, and surmounted by rich ornamentation of finials, crockets, and angel figures. The subjects of the panels, which are carved in high relief, embrace the crucifixion scene as the central object, flanked on either side by the types of the Manna and the Grapes of Eshcol. Above this stands the east window, filled with stained glass by Hardman, and memorial<sup>1</sup> to "John Heaton of Plas Heaton, d. 1855, æt. 68, and Anne Eliza, his second wife, d. 1872, æt. 72." The subject comprises the Resurrection of Our Lord, filling the three central divisions, and in the two side-lights His subsequent appearances. The organ was built by Hill and Son, and cost £350. The polygonal pulpit, of Caen stone richly carved, and supported on a circular base with marble columns, has angel figures at its angles, and its foliated panels are ornamented with a diaper pattern; under the edge runs a beading of flowers and at the foot a scroll inscribed "In memory of F. H. T., who fell asleep in Jesus, Dec. 28th, 1867." The circular font, supported on a series of marble pillars, is divided into panels deeply graven, bearing in their centres blank shields with wild flowers in the spandrels; and along the upper rim a running band of the vine.<sup>2</sup> The carving throughout, and especially that of the capitals of the nave arcades, is very excellent and deserving of note. The total cost amounts to £9,047, the chief contributors, besides the late Miss Mesham, being, the Drapers' Company, for Howell Charity, £500; A. E. Turnour, Esq., £300; Rev. R. J. Roberts, £105; P. H. Chambres,<sup>3</sup> R. E. Blackwell, J. R. Heaton, H. R. Hughes of Kinnel, Price Morris, J. Parry Jones, F. Wynne, Bishop Short, Rev. H. H. Price of Ash Vicarage, each £100; Mrs. Mostyn, £70; T. Gold Edwards, £60; Thos. Hughes, Ystrad, Sir W. W. Wynn, T. Mainwaring, O. Burton, W. Chambres, Gabr. Roberts, and Rev. L. Lewis, £50; Diocesan Church Building Society, £150; Incorporated Church Building Society, £80; Cary Fund, £50.

*Towyn*.—This new parish, formed out of Abergele by an Order in Council, dated Sept. 22nd, comprises the townships of Towyn, with parts of Botegwal and Bodoryn, with a population of 450, and has been endowed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners with £250 per annum out of the lapsed rectorial tithes. The patronage has been assigned to Mr. Bamford-Hesketh of Gwrych Castle, who at his own sole cost erected the beautiful church, schools, and parsonage.

The church, St. Mary's, consecrated on the 17th of June, 1873, comprises nave with north aisle of four bays, choir with organ cham-

<sup>1</sup> The gift of William H. Heaton, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> The gift of the Welsh congregation and the Sunday scholars.

<sup>3</sup> The site was also sold at a very favourable price (£300) by him.



ber also on the north side, and chancel, with the vestry at the north east angle, connected by a cloister with the parsonage. The style is early Decorated from the plans of Mr. G. E. Street, R.A. Externally, a gabled belfry tower, which rises above the choir and is lighted by louvre windows breaks the outline of the roof, which is itself varied by coloured slates laid in diaper pattern. A pretty porch on the south side forms the main entrance. Internally, both the chancel and choir (which is divided off by handsome oak screens from the nave and organ chamber) are fully and appropriately furnished, and are floored with Godwin's Lugwardine tiles. A finely carved reredos of the Crucifixion, with the Maries, St. John, and the Roman soldiers on either side,<sup>1</sup> flanked by arcading inlaid with tiles, occupies the east wall, and above it, in a three-light window by Hardman, is an allegorical representation of the Adoration of Our Lord by the Church triumphant, as represented by her saints and martyrs; two other windows represent the Good Shepherd and the Virgin Mother. The rich altar cloth was worked by the Clewer Sisters; the embossed communion plate as well as the massive coronæ by which the church is lighted were by Hardman, and the organ by Hill and Son of London. In the nave, the pulpit, which stands at the south-east corner, is circular in form and of Caen stone ornamented with trefoils; the font octagonal with diaper panels; and the lectern of brass. In addition to the coronæ the nave is lighted on the north side by a clerestory range of triple lights with detached shafts, and the roof is very effective, being supported by horizontal principals, with upright king posts and braces.

The adjoining schools, comprising school and class-rooms with lavatories and teacher's residence are very good and complete, and were opened on the 2nd of October, 1871.

*Vicar.*—1873.—MEREDITH, John Lewis, B.A., Jes. Coll., Oxon.; Deac., 1869; Pr., 1870; Curate of Llanfairfechan, 1869.

*Trofarth.*—The consolidated district of Trofarth consists of the township of Trofarth and a portion of Cilcen in Bettws, a portion of Deunant in Llansantffraid, and a portion of Llangernyw, with a population of about 400.

The endowment has not yet been settled, but it is to be provided out of the rectorial tithes of the district now in the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and it is in the patronage of the bishop.

The church, dedicated in the name of St. John, was consecrated June 19th, 1873, and consists of a nave and chancel in the Early English style, after plans designed by Sir Gilbert Scott for a church at Nevin. The total cost was £895 : 2 : 6,<sup>2</sup> exclusive of special gifts.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> By Earp.

<sup>2</sup> Page 357.

<sup>3</sup> J. Lloyd Wynne, Esq., Coed Coch, gave £523 16s., and Mrs. J. L. Wynne, £105 14s.; Rev. H. F. Heaton, vicar of Bettws, £50 : 17 : 2; Rev. J. Boulger, £40; etc.

<sup>4</sup> The reredos by General Yorke; Communion-plate, General Lawrenson;

At the east end is a reredos of the Last Supper, cast in bronze and set in Bath stone; and there are in the church two fonts, one of the ordinary size and another for immersion. The east window of three lights is filled with Powell's quarries.

The National School was built in 1865, and served, till the consecration of the church, the double office of church and school. In addition to £428 : 12 : 4, the cost of the building, £256 were also provided for endowment.

*Vicar.*—1873.—JONES, Thomas Evans, M.A., Trin. Coll., Dublin; Deac., 1861; Pr., 1862; Curate of Brymbo, 1861-4; Selattyn, 1864-9; Northop, 1869-73.

#### DEANERY OF DYFFRYN CLWYD.

*Efenechtyd.*—This church was reopened on 15th October, 1873, after a restoration which embraced re-roofing and reseating with oak, reflooring with encaustic tiles, removing the old gallery,<sup>1</sup> and renewing the windows; a stone base has been placed beneath the curious wooden font; the carved beam from the gallery placed as a step front at the junction of the chancel, and some of the old oak pewing used for the panelling of the chancel. The old pulpit has been cleaned of its paint and a new porch built to the west door. The plans were by Mr. Arthur Baker, and the outlay £500.<sup>2</sup>

*Gyffylliog.*—This has now been detached from Llanynys and formed into a separate parish, but the income has not yet been augmented. The restoration, or rather renewal, of the church is also proceeding, under the care of Mr. Baker, and consists of a new roof to the nave, and lining that of the chancel with an oak panelled ceiling, the division of the chancel from the nave by a wooden arch and reseating the church throughout. A new stone turret will be substituted for the old one; the carved woodwork of the old screen will be re-used in the chancel seats, and the east window, raised two and a-half feet higher, is to be filled with stained glass in memory of the Rev. E. J. Owen, of Fachlwyd, late Vicar of Llanfair, by his widow, who bears the whole costs of the chancel restoration, that of the nave being defrayed by subscriptions.<sup>3</sup>

oak for pulpit, desk, and rails, Mr. J. Ll. Wynne; altar-cloth, Mrs. J. Ll. Wynne; Communion-linen, Mrs. (Justice) Haliburton.

<sup>1</sup> There is a tradition that this old gallery formed part of the ancient Market Cross at Ruthin, and was brought here about 1790. (J. P. E.)

<sup>2</sup> Rev. J. P. Evans, rector, £100; Mrs. J. P. Evans, Lord Bagot, W. C. West, Esq., and Diocesan Church Building Society, £25 each; Mr. Blezard, Mrs. Fairclough, and Incorporated Church Building Society, £20 each; etc.

<sup>3</sup> It is proposed to add a vestry on the north side, and insert a window at the west end.

*Llanfair-Dyffryn-Clwyd* (p. 418).—The re-opening of this church took place on August 8th, 1872, after a very thorough and effective restoration, which included the removal of the pews and gallery and the substitution of open seats of oak in the nave and of stalls in the chancel, the cleaning of the pillars and arches, and raising the walls two feet higher, the flooring of the chancel with Godwin's encaustic tiles, and the renewal of the low screen, which formerly divided it from the nave, the erection of a new reredos, altar table, pulpit, lectern, font, and porch, the insertion of a new east window, the repair of the others, and the transfer of the scattered fragments of old stained glass to one on the south side; the restoration of the ancient oak panelling over the chancel and its aisle, the renewal of the roof and its slating, and the introduction of a new heating apparatus. The cost of the above has been £2,312 : 19 : 1,<sup>1</sup> exclusive of such special gifts as the stained east window by Westlake of London, representing the Crucifixion, with the Last Supper below, and saints and angels in the tracery above, which is memorial to "John Puleston and Mary his wife, by their son J. H. Puleston,"<sup>2</sup> 1872; and the alabaster reredos, which is perpendicular in style, with its canopies enriched with gilding, and has in the central panel a white marble cross, and on either side the Annunciation; this was wrought by Green of Manchester, and presented by Miss Wilson, in memory of her brother-in-law, the late vicar, E. J. Owen, to whom also the new font is a memorial from the parishioners, and the porch from his widow.

#### DEANERY OF HOLYWELL.

*Caerfallwch Northop*.—This new church, to be dedicated in the name of St. Paul, consists of a chancel which ends in a circular apse, with a small spire-belfry at their junction, and a south porch. The style is early English, from the plans of Mr. John Hill of Brighton, and it is calculated to accommodate 230, and to cost £1,200.<sup>3</sup>

When completed, a district is to be assigned to it, consisting of the township of Caerfallwch in Northop, with a population of 880, and it

<sup>1</sup> Subscriptions were, Mrs. E. J. Owen, £750 : 7 : 11; Rev. B. M. Jones, vicar, £300; Colonel Hugh Jones, £123 11s.; Wm. Chambres, Esq., and Diocesan Church Building Society, £100; Mrs. Lloyd of Rhagat, £70; James Goodrich, Esq., and Trustees of Llwyn Ynn, £50; Church Building Society and Miss Jones, Bryneisteddffod, £40; etc. Re-opening offertories, £50 : 11 : 9.

<sup>2</sup> Now M.P. for Devonport. Born at Plas Newydd. Cost of window, £350.

<sup>3</sup> Diocesan Church Building Society, £150; Incorporated ditto, £100; J. Scott Bankes, £100; Rev. T. Williams and a Friend, each £50; Mr. and Mrs. Davidson, £30; Bishop of St. Asaph, Rev. R. H. Howard, E. Bates, and R. B. Hesketh, £20; etc. The site was presented by the Duke of Westminster, K.G.



will be endowed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners with tithes to the value of £300.

The services, meanwhile, are being carried on in the Rhosesmor schoolroom.

*Curate in Charge.*—1873.—JONES, Thomas Evans, B.A., Magd. Coll. Cam., Scholar, Exhibitioner and Prizeman, 1864-6; 3rd class in Class. Trip.; and B.A., 1868; Deacon, 1868; Pr., 1869; Curate of Holywell, 1868-71; Rhyl, 1871-3.

*St. Thomas's, Flint Common.*—The foundation stone of this school church was laid on Whitsun Tuesday, May 26, 1874, by Mr. P. Ellis Eyton, M.P. for the boroughs, on a site given by Mr. E. Bate of Kelserton. The new building comprises nave, chancel, and vestry, designed in the early English style by Mr. John Hill, and is calculated to accommodate 137 children; cost about £1,000, towards which sum Mr. Eyton and Mr. Lewis of Brynedwyn each contributed £100.

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#### DEANERY OF LLANRWST.

*Cerrigydrudion.*—This restoration, now completed, comprises the rebuilding of the western wall and bell gable, a new roof, the insertion of eight new windows, the flooring of the chancel and aisle with encaustic tiles, and the addition of a new vestry.<sup>1</sup> The east window of three lights, filled with stained glass by Messrs. Cox and Sons of the Strand, represents in the central division Our Lord and St. Mary Magdalene, in whose name the church is dedicated, and is inscribed, "in memory of the family of Penaner, by Charles Salisbury Mainwaring, their descendant, 1874." Two windows on the north side, by Messrs. E. and J. Holloway, of Liverpool, represent respectively Our Lord as the Good Shepherd, with Moses and David (the Law and the Psalms) on either side, "in memory of John Jones, who died April 26, 1844, also Elizabeth, his wife, who died March 5th, 1864," by their son and daughter, 1874; and our Saviour blessing little children, erected by William Jones of Liverpool, late of Tynygraig, in this parish, 1874.

*Llangwm.*—This church was reopened February 25th, 1874, after a thorough renovation, which embraced the walls, roof, and flooring, reseating, refurnishing, and reglazing, besides 160 yards of walling to the churchyard. A space beneath the old gallery has been partitioned off for a vestry, and on the east end some paneling has been inserted, with a small reredos of carved pitch pine. The outlay was £435.

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<sup>1</sup> The outlay amounts to £750; the subscriptions, Dec. 31, 1873, to £478, of which, Townshend Mainwaring, £100; J. J., Rector, £50; Robt. Blezard of Pool Park, and George Ashley of Caergroes, £25; Bishop of St. Asaph, C. Wynne Fynch, and J. Roberts, Brynedwydd, £20.

## PROMOTIONS

BROUGHT DOWN TO JULY 1, 1874.

“CURSAL CANONS,” OR “CANONS.”<sup>1</sup>

1872.—WILLIAMS, Robert, M.A., Christchurch, Oxford, 3rd Cl. Litt. Hum., 1832; V. Llangadwaladr, 1837; and R. Rhydyeroesau, 1838; author of *History and Antiquities of Aberconwy*, 1835; *Biographical Dictionary of Eminent Welshmen*, 1852; *Dictionary of the Ancient Celtic Language of Cornwall*, 1865; editor of *Y Seint Greal*, 1874. *Canonia Galfridi Ruthin*.

1873.—MORGAN, Hugh, M.A., Jesus Coll., Oxford, B.A. 1847; V. Rhyl, 1855; *Canonia Randolphi Birkenhead*.

*Aberhafesp*.—PARKER, F. W., M.A.; R. Montgomery, dioc. Hereford, 1873.

1873.—CUTHBERT, George, B.A., Trin. Coll., Dub., Deac. and Pr., 1839; C. Oswestry, 1853-73; author of addresses on *The Present Age*, 1860; *Perils of Young Men*, 1865; *Advent Sermons*, 1869.

*Bodelwyddan*.—WILLIAMS, W. R., M.A., C. in charge of Gyffylliog, 1872.

1872.—WILLIAMS, Watkin Herbert, M.A., Ch. Ch., Oxford; Deac., 1870; Pr., 1872; C. Rhos Llanerchrugog, 1870-2.

*Buckley, St. Matthew's*.<sup>2</sup>—STEVENSON, Charles, M.A., V. Flaxley, dioc. Glouc. and Br., 1873.

1874.—TORRE, William Fox Whitbread, M.A., St. John's Coll., Camb.; Jun. Opt. and B.A., 1851; Deac., 1852; Pr., 1853; Cur. Parish Church, Leeds, 1851-63; P. C. Headingley, 1863-5; C. Chislehurst, dioc. Cant., 1869-74.

<sup>1</sup> The name of “Honorary” Canons has been abandoned as inappropriate, and the following should be inserted, under a line, beneath their respective titles:

1849. Clough, Charles Butler, M.A.	.	.	David ap Howel.
— Clive, William, M.A.	.	.	Harrison.
1850. Bonnor, Richard, B.M., M.A.	.	.	Llanfair II.
— Jones, Hugh, M.A.	.	.	Beckensall.
1854. Maude, Joseph, M.A.	.	.	David ap Howel.
— Davies, Morgan, M.A.	.	.	Galfrid: Ruthin.
1855. Wynne-Eyton, Robert, M.A.	.	.	Meliden.
— Cunliffe, George, M.A.	.	.	Bulkeley.
— Glynnne, Henry, M.A.	.	.	Birkenhead.

<sup>2</sup> This is now being separated from Hawarden, with a district legally attached, and a population of 2,000. The income is to be £400, from the tithes of the mother parish.

*Bylchau*.—PARRY, Henry, B.A., obiit 1873.

1873.—JONES, William Evan, S. Bees, D., 1845 ; P., 1846 ; P. C. Bagillt, 1846-50 ; R. Garthbeibio, 1850-73.

*Chirk*.—MAUDE, Joseph, M.A., obiit, 1874.

1874.—TOMPSON, F. H., M.A., V. Llanllwchaiarn, 1851-74.

*Clocaenog*.—HUGHES, Thos., M.A., obiit 1874.

1874.—JONES, William H., Deac., 1861 ; P., 1867 ; P. C. Cymmer, Llantrissant, dioc. Llandaff, 1871-4.

*Connahs Quay*, St. Mark's.—WYNNE-JONES, Ll., M.A., V. Llanllwchaiarn, 1874.

1874.—WILLIAMS, Thomas, Theol. Assoc., King's Coll., Lond. ; D., 1854 ; P., 1855 ; Cur. Wellington, Som., 1854-8 ; Gaerhill, Frome, 1858-60 ; Kirkham, Lanc., 1860 ; P. C. Berse Drelincourt, 1860-74.

*Cwm*.—GRIFFITH, Thomas, M.A. Resigned 1873.

1873.—MORRIS, James, D., 1855 ; P., 1856, formerly Curate of Bedwellty, Neath, and Michaelstone super Avon, dioc. Llandaff ; R. Llaneugrad with Llanallgo, dioc. Bang., 1863-73 ; author of *St. Bartholomew's Day*, *Gwyl y Cynhauaf*, 1867 ; and *Llyfr Mawl*, 1870.

*Disserth*.—HALLOWES, B., M.A., resigned.

1870.—JONES, David, St. Dav., Lampeter ; D., 1864 ; P., 1865 ; C. Llangollen, 1864-70.

*Dolfor*, Kerry.—EDWARDS, E. J., C. Kerry, 1872.

1872.—MORGAN, John Pughe, B.A., Jes. Coll., Ox. ; Deac., 1868 ; P., 1869 ; C. Llandrinio, 1868-70 ; Oswestry, 1870-2 ; author of *Gethsemane, and other Poems*, 1869.

*Gwaunysgor*.—JONES, Edw., M.A., R. Manafon, 1872.

1872.—JONES, James, D., 1865 ; P., 1866 ; Cur. Rhos Llanerch-rugog, 1866-72.

*Gyffylliog*.—1872.—WILLIAMS, William Rees, M.A., Sidney Coll., Cam., 21st Wrangler, 1843 ; Princ. of N. Wales Training Coll., 1856-65 ; P. C. Bodelwyddan, 1865-72.

*Halkin*.—EVANS, Edw., M.A., obiit 1874.

1874.—EVANS, Walter, M.A., R. St. Lythan's, Cardiff.

*Llanasa*.—Hughes, T. J., M.A., R. Llanbedr, Dyffryn Clwyd, 1870.

1870.—MORGAN, John Parry, B.A., Lampeter, Scholar ; D., 1865 ; P., 1866 ; Cur. Holywell, 1865 ; Rhyl, 1867-70.

*Llandyrnog*.—ROBERTS, David, M.A., obiit 1874.

1874.—GRIFFITHS, John, B.D., Lampeter, 1854 ; D.D. Cantuar, 1869 ; D., 1829 ; P., 1830 ; V. Llandeilo Vawr, 1852-74 ; author of *Welsh Sermons, Tracts, and Essays*.

*Llangwyfan*.—JOES, J. O., B.A., dec. 1873.

1873.—REES, Morgan, Llandaff Dioc., Theol. Coll., D., 1865 ; P., 1866 ; Cur. Beaufort, 1865-8 ; Llandaff Home Mission, Maes y cawr, 1868-73.



*Llanllwchaiarn*.—TOMPSON, F. H., M.A., V. Chirk, 1874.

1874.—WYNNE-JONES LLEWELYN, M.A., Trin. Coll., Dub., D., 1845 ; P., 1846 ; R. St. Mark's, Connah's Quay, 1860-74.

*Llanynys*.—GRIFFITH, John, M.A., dec. Dec. 1873.

1874.—DAVIES, John, St. David's, Lampeter, Scholar, D., 1858 ; P., 1859 ; Curate, Ysphyty Ystwith, 1858-60 ; Felinfoel, 1860-1 ; Llanrwst, 1861-8 ; V. Dolanog, 1868-74.

*Llysfaen*.—HUGHES, R. O., dec. Aug. 8, 1873.

1873.—EVANS, Samuel, B.A., Lampeter, Eldon Scholar, D., 1865 ; P., 1866 ; C. Rhwabon, 1865-7 ; V. Pontbleiddyn, 1867-73.

*Manafon*.—LEWIS, Thomas, M.A., ob. 1872.

1872.—JONES, Edward, M.A., Jes. Coll., Oxon., D., 1826 ; Pr., 1827 ; P. C., Trefonen, 1827-50 ; R. Gwaunysgor, 1850-72.

*Nannerch*.—WILLIAMS, David, M.A. ; R., Castle Caereinion, 1872.

WILLIAMS, Watkin, Lampeter, D., 1843 ; P., 1844 ; R. Llangar, 1858-72.

*Pontbleiddyn*.—EVANS, Samuel, B.A., R. Llysfaen, 1873.

1873.—DAVIES, Philip, Literate, Deac., 1864 ; Pr., 1865 ; Cur. Llanidloes, 1864-6 ; Bloxwich, 1866-8 ; Llanrwst, 1868-73.

*Sarn, Kerry*.—MOOR, C. T., M.A., Episcop. Chaplain at Cally House, Kircudbrightshire, 1872.

1872.—BARRET, Thomas, B.A., St. John's Coll., Camb., D., 1854 ; P., 1855, formerly Cur. of Elvaston, Longton ; Ch. Ch., Stone, Wenedbury, Coven., dioc., Lich.

*Sealand, Hawarden*.—CHIDLOW, Charles, M.A., V. Conwil Caio, dioc. St. Dav., 1873.

1873.—JEFFERY, John William, Lit., Deac., 1870 ; Pr., 1871 ; Cur. of Stonehaven, 1870-2 ; Incumbent of St. Margaret's, Dundee, 1872-4.

*Trefonen*.—LLOYD, David, obiit 1874.

1874.—EVANS, David Pughe, M.A., Corp. Christi Coll., Oxford ; D., 1865 ; P. 1866 ; Assistant Master in Oswestry Sch., 1863-8 ; Cur. Whittington, 1868-71 ; Borth, Llanfihangel Geneu'r Glyn, 1871.

*Ysgeifog*.—ROBERTS, R. J., M.A., obiit 1873.

1873.—MORGAN, David, B.D., Lampeter, Hebrew Schol., D., 1842 ; P., 1843 ; C. Mark, Somerset, 1842-4 ; Holy Trinity, Bristol, 1844-6 ; P. C. Nantyglo, 1846-57 ; R. Aberystwith with Abertillery C., dioc., Lland., 1858-73.

## CORRIGENDA.

Page 27, line 12, *for* (Selattyn) *read* (Shrawardine).

„ 84, l. 8, *for* 1536 *read* 1556.

„ 87, note 2, *for* Llanefydd *read* Llanycil.

„ 94, ll. 1-3, after “enacted”, instead of “that those ..... viz.,” *read* “that all the clergy of the diocese, if not more than fifty years of age, should be required to preach in their parish churches”, etc.

„ 108, ll. 22-23, transpose Denbigh and Wrexham.

„ 158, l. 19, instead of “at the same time”, *read* the Order in Council for the transfer from Chester, Hereford, and St. David's, to St. Asaph, bears date 30 July, 1849; that for the exchange of Dyffryn Clwyd and Kemerch deaneries for Cyfeiliog, Sept. 1849.

„ 171, l. 26, *for* Bala *read* Belan.

„ 215, l. 3, *for* his sisters *read* nieces of Mrs. Carey. They were sisters of the Mr. Sheepshanks who presented to the nation the collection of pictures at South Kensington.

„ — l. 29, transpose Hughes and Ward.

„ 225, ll. 17, 18, *for* 1855, 1856, *read* 1555, 1556.

„ 227, l. 9, *for* 1604 *read* 1624.

„ 227, l. 24, *for* Penrhyn in Carnarvonshire *read* Llanfaethlu in Anglesey.

„ 242, last line, *for* 1563 or 1564, *read* 1653 or 1654.

„ 244, add, Dean Shipley was put on his trial at Shrewsbury, August 6, 1784, for a libel against the King and the Government, contained in a dialogue entitled *The Principles of Government*, and found guilty of publishing; but whether a libel or not, the jury do not find. This dialogue was written by Sir William Jones, and published by the Dean, his father-in-law.

„ 247, l. 18, *for* Bettws *read* Abergele Church.

„ — l. 34, *for* both of which *read* which, with his prebend.

„ 248, l. 23, omit Prebendary ... Bangor, 1613. That was Rd. Gwynn, A.M.

„ 251, l. 3, *for* 1667 *read* 1677.

„ 252, l. 19, *for* rector *read* vicar of Llanllwchaiarn.

„ 260, Langford, *dele* rector of Castle Caereinion.

„ 261, 1681, Evans, *for* rector *read* vicar of Berriew.

„ 267, 1678, *for* Ray, W., *read* Kaye, William.

„ 268, l. 4, *for* Joseph *read* Josiah.

„ 273, l. 22, *for* clustered *read* fluted.

Page 305, l. 22, omit "in remembrance ..... Bodrhyddan", as incorrect.

- „ 324, vicars. After Carless insert Bevan, Henry, Prebendary of Moughtre.
- „ 333, l. 19, *for* impropriator, Lord Sudeley, *read* impropriators, Mr. Erasmus Saunders, £210, and Mr. Jones, Welshpool, £10.
- „ 334, vicars. Insert, 1763, Bingham, James, M.A.
- „ 367, l. 12, *for* John Harris, Roberts, etc., *read* John Henry Roberts, M.A., Emmanuel College, Cambridge, Sen. Opt. and 3rd Class Trip., 1859; formerly Second Master of Derby School.
- „ 380, l. 27, *for* 1261 *read* 1291.
- „ 389, l. 29, *for* Gibson *read* Smith, a deputy of Gibson.
- „ 390, vicars. *Dele* 1837, Roberts, John, he being the curate.
- „ 401, l. 6. Bishop receives 3s. 4d. only.
- „ 412, l. 5, after sermon, add at Ruthin.
- „ — l. 10, *read* £106 in Wrexham, Ruthin, and Denbigh Trust.
- „ — l. 12, add £30 received in 1868 as composition-money.
- „ 373, l. 26. For the explanation of this, see Burns' *Justice*.
- „ 466, l. 9, *for* consecration *read* license.
- „ 474, l. 13, after Ysgeifiog add, and Holywell.
- „ — l. 25, *for* offered *read* gave.
- „ 476, l. 24, *dele* 185.
- „ 491, l. 15. This was the celebrated Sir Philip Sidney, who was collated on the just deprivation of Hugh Whitford. He was admitted by Griffith, John, rector of Ysgeifiog, his proctor on the occasion, who took for him the oath of allegiance to the King, and for him renounced the papal supremacy. (Historical MSS. Commission, *Third Report*, Append., p. 227.) Notes 3 ("Nondum in sacris", etc.) and 4 should, therefore, be transposed.
- „ 492, l. 7, *for* 1685 *read* 1865.
- „ 499, n. 2, *read* Bishops.
- „ 507. Mr. Beamont's tithes have subsequently been sold for the endowment of St. Peter's Mission, Warrington.
- „ 509, l. 21. A debt of £305 18s. on these two school-chapels was paid off at Christmas, 1872, by Mr. W. Wagstaff of Plas yn Ffod.
- „ 517, l. 2, add—to vicar, £14 5s. from Pentregaer, and £5 : 13 : 4 from Trefonen, townships in Oswestry parish.
- „ 532, l. 7, add Llansantffraid Glan Conway.



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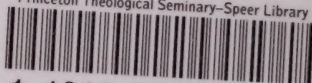




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